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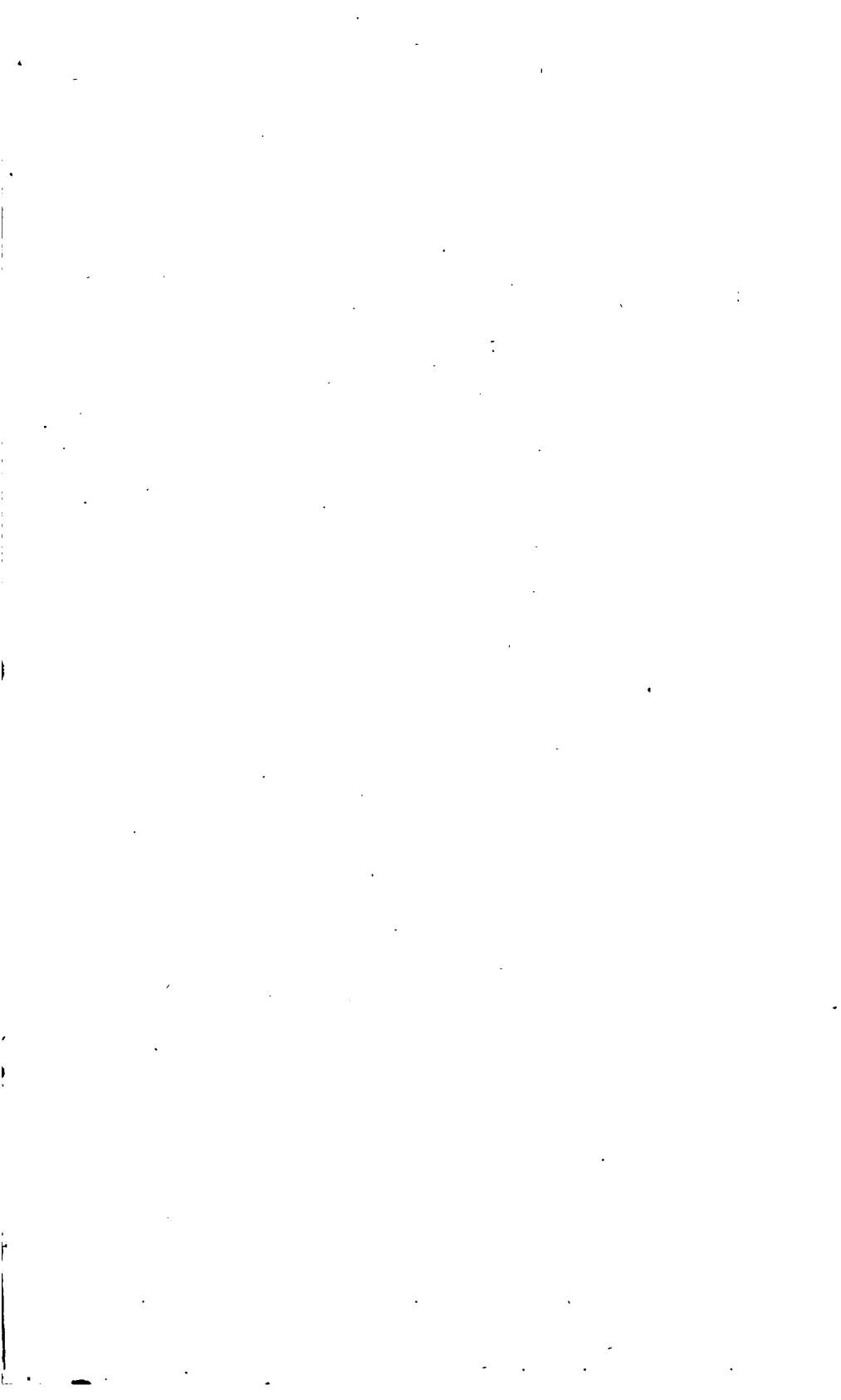
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**REPORTS**  
**OF THE**  
**Commissioners**  
**FOR INQUIRING CONCERNING**  
**CHARITIES,**  
**IN**  
**THE HUNDREDS OF**  
**BANBURY & BLOXHAM,**  
**ALSO SOME PLACES**  
**IN THE**  
**HUNDREDS OF WOOTTON,**  
**PLOUGHLEY,**  
**Chadlington, & Bullington,**  
**OXON;**  
**AND A FEW PLACES IN**  
**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE :**

**FROM THE**  
**TWELFTH AND THIRTEENTH REPORTS.**

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**BANBURY :**  
**PRINTED AND SOLD BY J. G. RUSHER,**  
**BRIDGE STREET.**

**1826.**



12, 13.

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FURTHER  
**REPORTS**

OF THE

**COMMISSIONERS,**

APPOINTED IN PURSUANCE OF TWO SEVERAL  
ACTS OF PARLIAMENT;

The one, made and passed in the 58th Year of  
His late Majesty, cap. 91, intituled,

*“AN ACT for appointing Commissioners to inquire concerning Charities in England, for the Education of The Poor.”*

And the other, made and passed in the 59th Year of  
His late Majesty, cap. 81, intituled,

*“AN ACT to amend an Act of the last Session of Parliament, for appointing Commissioners to inquire concerning Charities in England, for the Education of The Poor, and to extend the Powers thereof to other Charities in England and Wales.”*

And both of which Acts have been continued by an  
Act passed in the 5th Year of His present Majesty,  
cap. 58.

---

(The Twelfth Report dated 9th JULY, 1824.—The Thirteenth  
Report dated 22d JANUARY, 1825.)

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Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed.  
26 May, 1825.

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**FURTHER  
REPORTS  
OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS,  
FOR INQUIRING CONCERNING  
CHARITIES.**

---

**TO THE  
KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.**

**W**E, the Commissioners appointed by a Commission, under the Great Seal, bearing date the 5th day of August, in the first year of Your MAJESTY's reign, to inquire concerning CHARITIES in *England and Wales*.

**DO FURTHER HUMBLY REPORT,**

**THAT** we have proceeded with the Inquiries intrusted to us, and that the result of such Investigations as we have been enabled to complete, since the presentation of our last Report, will be found in the ensuing pages.

---

**The Twelfth Report dated 9th July, 1824.**

**The Thirteenth Report dated 22d January, 1825.**

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**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.**


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# HUNDRED OF BANBURY.

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## PARISH OF BANBURY.

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### BLUE COAT SCHOOL.

**I**T appears, from the book of accounts of this school, that this establishment was first instituted in 1705, by voluntary subscription, and that the following orders were agreed to by the majority of subscribers at a meeting on the 26th February in that year :—

1. That the trustees be in number nine, the minister for the time being (if a subscriber) to be one; the rest to be chosen out of the subscribers at least a week before the day of election.

2. The trustees, collectors, being subscribers, master, mistress, and poor children, to be chosen by the majority of trustees, who are also to have the disposal and management of the surplus arising by this charity, if any, for the placing out some of the poor children, either to be apprentices or servants, or otherwise, at their discretion, and to take the trustees' accounts quarterly; and to the end that the management of this charity may not be delayed or hindered by the absence of any who shall be chosen a trustee, and is not resident in town, it is agreed, that any absent trustee may depute any other subscriber to act for him, whose consent shall be as binding as though such trustee had been present and consented.

3. That there shall be collectors, who shall every quarter collect and receive of every subscriber the sum by him respectively subscribed for; and within a week after the same shall be by him received, shall pay the same over to the trustees, and shall be allowed their necessary expenses out of pocket on account of their collection by the trustees.

4. That the trustees shall keep a fair account of all receipts and disbursements for the view of the subscribers and others, and shall every quarter transmit the same to the schoolmaster, to be by him fairly entered into a book to be kept for that purpose by the minister of the parish, being a subscriber, for the time being.

5. The schoolmaster, his salary to be £25 per annum, and

## 10 THE COMMISSIONERS REPORT OF

paid quarterly; the schoolmistress, her salary to be £12 10s per annum, and paid quarterly; both to commence from Lady-day 1706.

6. The number of boys to be taught not exceeding 30, girls 20, for this year.

7. Each boy to have a coat, breeches, cap, two bands, two shirts, two pair of stockings, two pair of shoes, and one pair of shoe-buckles.

8. Each girl to have two caps, two whisks, one gown, one petticoat, two shifts, two pair of stockings, one pair of knit gloves, two pair of shoes, one pair of shoe-buckles.

9. The schoolmaster to be a member of the church of England, of a sober life and conversation; one that frequents the holy communion; one that has a good government of himself and passions; of a meek temper, and humble behaviour; one who understands well the grounds and principles of the Christian religion; one who can write a good hand, and understands arithmetic; and shall be approved of by the minister for the time being, being a subscriber.

10. The master to attend the school from seven to eleven in the morning, and from one to five in the afternoon, the summer season; from eight to eleven in the morning, and from one to four in the afternoon, the winter season. The master to teach the principles of religion as laid down in the church catechism, and bring the children to church constantly on Sundays and holydays, and every week day, at the hour of eleven in the morning, if there shall be prayers; the master and boys to break up at the three usual times in the year, viz. Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide. The master to teach no other than the charity boys, and to receive no money of their friends, under pain of forfeiting his place; that the master shall fairly enter into a book to be kept for that purpose the accounts of this charity, as the same shall be from time to time transmitted to him by the trustees, which book shall be kept by the minister of the parish, to be perused at any time by any subscribers, or others; the master to teach such of the girls to write, as trustees shall direct.

11. The mistress to be qualified as the master (writing and arithmetic excepted), and to observe the same methods as the master, and to teach the girls to knit, sew, mark, and spin.

12. The master, mistress, and children, to observe the further directions of the trustees, and to be liable to be turned out for neglect or misbehaviour, of which the majority of the trustees for the time being are to be sole judges.

The following benefactions to this charity are noticed in the book of accounts:—

*Blue Coat School.*

A legacy of £100 bequeathed by the Honourable Charles North, was in 1714 placed in the hands of Lord Guilford; the interest to be applied to the use of the charity school, pursuant to the donor's will.

In 1721, the following sums were added to the money in Lord Guilford's hands:—

Ten pounds, the legacy of Mrs. Jane Hussey. And

Twenty pounds, the legacy of Martha Lane.

And in 1722, the further sum of £200 was added, being the legacy of Mrs. Anne North.

In 1725, a legacy of £40, left by the Rev. ——— Fletcher, was also added thereto, making up in the whole £370 for which a bond was given by Lord Guilford.

In 1748, the interest due on this sum of £370 was greatly in arrear, there being due, for principal and interest, according to the master's report in a cause in Chancery, between George Lewin, esq. and William Overbury Oakley and others, the sum of £567 2s 8d; and Francis Lord Guilford, in discharge of that debt, granted a rent-charge of £23 out of an estate at Neithrop.

2. In the year 1708 there is entered amongst the subscriptions the sum of £1 from Mr. Kenning, and in 1722 it is noted that this was a perpetual legacy.

3. *Thomas Abraham*, alias *Metcalfe*, by will, dated 22d July 1712, devised certain premises in Banbury and Bodicot (as more particularly mentioned hereafter, in the account of his charities), upon trust, that his devisees and their heirs should, amongst other things, pay 40s yearly to the trustees of the charity school in Banbury, as long as the same should continue.

4. *Mary Abraham*, alias *Metcalfe*, widow of the said Thomas, by a codicil to her will, dated 11th May 1723, gave to the charity school in the parish of Banbury, as long as the children should be brought up in the doctrine of the church of England, an annuity of 40s, payable out of her estates in the parishes of Culworth and Eydon, Northamptonshire, which she had devised, as more particularly mentioned hereafter, for the payment of this and other legacies.

5. *Henry Abraham*, alias *Metcalfe*, by will, dated 1st July 1746, bequeathed to the trustees appointed by the will of his uncle, Thomas Abraham, viz. the rector of Broughton, the vicar of Adderbury, and the vicar of Banbury, together with the person in possession of his estates, as long as any of his relations should have them, £50 stock, part of a sum standing in his name in the old annuities, in trust, to apply the interest to the use of the charity school in Banbury, as

*Blue Coat School.*

long as it should continue; and, in case of its dropping, the produce thereof to be added to that of another legacy more particularly mentioned hereafter.

6. In 1734 a legacy of £100 was left to this school, by Mr. *Thompson*, and in 1752 this, together with £20 bequeathed by Mrs. *Jane Lane*, 3d July 1730, and £20 the gift of *Daniel Danvers*, was laid out, with a small addition, in the purchase of £150 three and an half per cent East India annuities, which stock was afterwards converted into £150 three per cents reduced.

7. *Joseph Wyatt*, as it appears by the same book, left, about the year 1732, a legacy of £20.

8. Mrs. *Milicent Welchman*, by will, about 1730, bequeathed £20 to be paid to the mayor and minister of Banbury, the interest thereof to be disposed of in teaching one or more child or children of the charity school there, or other such like school, the knowledge and learning of the principles of the Christian religion, according to the Church of England.

9. *William Hebcraft* bequeathed £20, which, according to the direction of his will, was laid out in the purchase of three per cent consols, producing £32 11s 5d stock.

10. *Elizabeth Metcalfe*, by will, dated 1st April 1774, left to the trustees and treasurers of the charity school of Banbury, £100.

11. The Reverend *William Harrison*, by will, dated 9th August 1786, bequeathed to John Callow, Richard Bignell, John Rushworth, and the vicar of Banbury, £20 to be placed in the public funds, for the benefit of this school.

12. Out of the surplus income of this charity, and a sum of £56 10s the balance of the coal fund, hereafter mentioned, there has been purchased stock in the old South sea annuities, at different periods, between the year 1761 and 1803, making up the amount of £700 stock; and in 1805, *William Rusher* gave the sum of £9 14s 4d with which £16 13s 4d like stock was purchased, making in the whole £716 13s 4d.

13. Besides the legacies above-mentioned, there were, before the inclosure, five leys in the common field of Neithrop, but from whom this land is derived is not known. An allotment was set out in lieu of it, by the award of the commissioners, in 1760, containing 1A. & 6P. to the trustees of "Thorpe's charity school."

It is from the sources above mentioned that the endowment of the Blue Coat school is derived. The particulars of the income arising therefrom will appear from the following statement:—

*Blue Coat School.*

# CHARITIES AT BANBURY.

13

1. The rent-charge of £23 payable out of Lord Guilford's estate at Neithrop, is regularly received from his agent, without any deduction .....	£. s. d.
2. The payment of £1 a year, on account of Mr. Kenning's legacy, has not been received since the year 1803, and we have not been able to obtain any satisfactory information respecting it. From 1799 to 1803, it appears to have been paid by Mr. Richard Bignell, a solicitor, but he cannot recollect on whose account he paid it.	23 - -
3. The yearly sum of £2 given by the will of Thomas Metcalfe, is now payable by Richard Taylor, of Banbury; it has not, however, been paid since 1818 .....	2 - -
4. The yearly sum of £2 given by the will of Mary Metcalfe, is now payable by Richard Faulkner, of Culworth, but this has not been paid since 1818 .....	2 - -
5. The £50 stock, bequeathed by Henry Metcalfe, now stands in the name of the Rev. T. W. Lancaster, vicar of Banbury, Rev. Charles Wyatt, rector of Broughton, and the Rev. Holford Cotton, vicar of Adderbury. The dividends, however, have not been paid to the treasurer since 1814. The particulars of the three last-mentioned gifts will be more fully stated hereafter, under the heads of Thomas, Mary, and Henry Metcalfe's charities .....	1 10 -
6. The £150 three per cent. reduced annuities, purchased with the legacies of Mr. Thompson and others, above-mentioned, stands in the names of the late George Green and Thomas Deacle, deceased, and Richard Heydon, the now treasurer. The dividends are regularly transmitted to the latter, from the bank of Messrs. Curtis, Roberts, and Co. ....	4 10 -
7. The legacy of Joseph Wyatt was paid to the treasurer in 1759, before that time the annual interest only having been received. The £20 was carried to the general account, and was probably applied towards the current expenses of the year.	
8. Of Millicent Welchman's legacy, there is no further notice than what is above stated.	
9. The stock purchased with William Hebraft's legacy of £20 was sold out in 1797, and the produce was re-invested, in the same year, in the purchase of £100 old South sea annuities, part of the stock now in the possession of the trustees.	
10. Elizabeth Metcalfe's legacy of £100 appears to have been laid out in 1798, by Mr. John Rushworth, one of her executors, upon the security of a church bond for £100. This is still in the possession of the trustees, bearing five per cent. interest There is also in the possession of the feoffees another church bond, for £50 with interest at five per cent. which was purchased in 1794 .....	5 - - 2 10 -
11. We have not been able to ascertain in what manner the legacy of the Rev. William Harrison was disposed of.	
12. The sum of £716 13s 4d old South sea annuities stands in the names of John Rushworth, George Green, Thomas Deacle, and Richard Heydon, the latter being now the only survivor. The dividends are regularly received .....	21 10 -
13. The land which was set out upon the inclosure of Neithrop Field was, previous to the establishment of the national school, let at £21 a year. The school was afterwards built upon part of it, and a further part was converted into a yard for the use of the schools. These premises are let to the subscribers to the national school, on lease for 99 years from 1817, at £5 .... And the rest of the land is now let to James Dace, as yearly tenant, at £8 a year, which is a full rent .....	5 - - 8 - -
The income arising from these sources, if regularly paid, would amount to .....	£ 75 - -

## 14 THE COMMISSIONERS REPORT OF

Previously to the year 1817, the children upon this foundation were instructed in a room over the town gaol, by a master and mistress, who were appointed by the trustees.

In 1817, a national school was established, and it was then agreed, that the trustees of this charity should pay to the funds of that establishment £30 per annum, for which all the blue coat children, that is to say, as many children as the trustees could afford to clothe, were to be instructed there, without any further payment. There are now 18 boys and 16 girls, of Banbury, who are clothed and provided by the trustees with school books, and a Bible and Prayer Book, when they leave the school.

The following is an account of the expenditure of last year :

	£.	s.	d.
Payment to the national school .....	30	--	--
Draper's bill for clothing (each child being fully clothed with outward clothing) .....	30	13	7
Shoemaker's bill (each child having two pair of shoes) .....	17	--	--
Making up the clothes .....	4	6	--
Books .....	1	--	--
Land-tax for school .....	--	2	--
Making together .....	£	83	17

This expenditure exceeds the permanent annual income; but the deficiency has been made up by an annual donation of £5 5s from lord Guilford; and a legacy of £100 bequeathed by Mrs. *Lucas*, about two years ago, to the blue-coat school, to be expended according to the discretion of Mr. Heydon, the present treasurer. There is now a balance in the treasurer's hands, amounting to about £62.

In addition to the property above-mentioned, the trustees claim two rooms over the gaol, and the garrets above, the former of which had been used previously to 1817, as the boys' and girls' schools, and the latter as a place for keeping fuel for the schools. The premises were used for such purposes as long as any person can remember, and probably from the time of the foundation of the charity. The entrance was by stone steps, on the outside, there being no communication whatever through the gaol.

In 1817, when the trustees had no longer any occasion for these premises, the children being sent to the national school, they advertised them to be let by tender, and no sufficient tender having been made, they afterwards offered them to the then mayor of Banbury, at a rent of £12 12s, and it was understood that they were to be applied for the purpose of enlarging the town goal. The key was afterwards delivered to the mayor, upon an understanding, that he had accepted the offer of the trustees. In 1819-20, the premises were taken

*Blue Coat School.*

in for the enlargement of the gaol, and a considerable expense was incurred by this and other improvements, under the directions of the mayor. Some delay took place with respect to the payment; but it was at length paid, as the expenses relating to the gaol had usually been, out of the rates of the town.

In the mean time the trustees had applied to the corporation of Banbury for the payment of the rent of £12 12s; the corporation insisted that they were not liable for the rent; that the mayor, in 1817, did not take the premises on account of the corporation, but on account of the town; for that it was on account of the town that the alterations in the gaol were made by the mayor, he having, by virtue of his office, the superintendence of the gaol, and the town being liable to the repairs of it.

On behalf of the town it is urged, that these rooms are part of the same building as the gaol; that there is no evidence of the trustees having had any property in them; and that they were merely applied to the purpose of the school, as being a beneficial object to the inhabitants of the town.

It is said, that these rooms were, before the foundation of the blue-coat charity, used as a woollen manufactory, established by the corporation, for the benefit of the town, under the authority of their charter. There are in an old chamberlain's book, which commences in 1747, entries of receipts of 7s 6d yearly, from 1747 to 1758, which sum is entered in different ways, as the "rent of Wool Hall," or of "the Hall;" and in two instances as the rent of "the Garret of the Charity School." These entries, and the fact, that persons, now living, remember such hooks, as are used by wool-packers, being fixed to the beams of the school-room, render it probable, that the rooms were originally used for the woollen manufactory.

We have thought it right to state all these circumstances, as the subject has excited much interest in the town; but upon the whole we think, that considering the peculiar locality of the premises, and that there is no evidence of any conveyance of them to the trustees, or of any agreement with them as to the occupation thereof, the grounds, upon which their claim depends, are too slight to justify us in recommending any proceedings for the recovery of the property.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL.—SIR JOHN KNIGHTLEY'S LEGACY.

Sir *John Knightley*, baronet, of Fawsley Park, in the county of Northampton, by the 8th codicil to his will, dated June 25th, 1802, bequeathed to the minister, churchwardens,



and overseers of the poor of Banbury, £200, the interest to be applied to the purposes of supporting a Sunday school at Banbury.

This legacy, after the payment of the duty, and some legal expenses, was laid out in the purchase of £295 1s 6d three per cent consols, in the name of the accountant-general.

The dividends are received by the vicar, and paid over to the funds of the national school, a Sunday school being part of that establishment. There is also another Sunday school in Banbury, which is supported by voluntary contributions.

By a decree of commissioners of charitable uses, made at Banbury, and dated 20th January 1603, it is recited, that divers premises, annuities, and sums of money, were limited and appointed to certain charitable uses thereinafter mentioned, according to the finding of the inquisition.

After enumerating several charitable donations, and stating that the commissioners had found that the bailiff, aldermen, and burgesses, had dealt very honestly and faithfully with respect to the same; It was ordered and decreed, that they and their successors should be seised of all the premises therein-before mentioned, and should employ the rents and profits thereof to the uses whereunto they were given, that they should have power to demise the lands and tenements, at such rents and fines as to them, and the minister and churchwardens, or the more part of them, should be thought reasonable: That they should yearly elect two honest and substantial men of the said town or company, who should be called Bridge-masters, Overseers or Receivers, and who should receive, employ and bestow the said rents and profits, according to the uses first intended; and that the said bailiff, aldermen, and burgesses, should deliver to them such sums of money as should remain unbestowed, if any; and that the said bridge-masters should render their accounts once every year, with such money as should be in their hands, before the auditors of the corporation, and the minister, or vicar and churchwardens, at such time and place as the bailiff should make his account; and reciting, that divers of the annuities therein mentioned, had been yearly bestowed obscurely and privately, It was ordered, that the same should be yearly brought by those who were to pay the same at the days appointed to the said bridge-masters, to be disposed of there in the presence of the minister, and a note thereof to be set down in a book for that purpose, to be shown with the accounts at the audits: And it was further ordered, that the said bailiff, aldermen, and burgesses, and their successors, should have the

disposal of the stocks, and of the monies for coals; and that they and the minister should appoint yearly two of the churchwardens, or other two substantial men, to see the same employed as it had theretofore been done, and to be accountable to them and other the inhabitants of the borough, at such time as the churchwardens should yearly render their accounts.

The nine following charities are mentioned in this decree :

**LANDS FOR REPAIRS OF BRIDGES AND HIGHWAYS.**

The premises first mentioned in the decree above mentioned, are the following :—

1. A burgage or tenement in Banbury, on the south side of Bridge-End-street, given to the repair of Banbury-bridge, and the highways in Banbury.

2. A burgage or tenement on the north side of Sheep-street, or Bolting-street, given to the use aforesaid.

3. A burgage or tenement on the south side of High-street of Banbury, given to the repairs of the highways without Sugarford-bar.

4. A tenement on the west-side of North-Bar-street in Banbury, given to the repair of the highways in North-Bar-street aforesaid.

The premises now held by the corporation, for the repairs of the bridges and highways in Banbury, do not precisely answer the description above given. They consist of—

1. About an acre and a half of ground near the bridge, let on lease, dated 1st January 1805, made to Joshua Green and William Walford, for the term of 86 years from the Michaelmas preceding, at the yearly rent of £10. This lease is now vested in Fiennes Wickham Martin, esq. to whom it has been assigned; £10 is stated to be the fair value of the premises.

2. A house, yard, and shop, situated in the Butcher-row, which is a considerable distance from Sheep-street, let to Jabez Welch, as yearly tenant, at £15 15s a year. These premises have lately been put into repair at the expense of the trust, and might be let for a somewhat higher rent.

3. A house and yard in High-street, generally called Red Lion-street, let to Richard Boswell, as yearly tenant, at £18 18s per annum, which is a fair rent.

4. A house, workshop, and garden, situate in North-Bar-street, let to Richard Austin, a brewer, on lease, dated 4th November 1812, for 20 years, from the Lady-day preceding, at the rent of £25.

In 1812, this was a public-house, but the licence having

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been since transferred to another house, it is underlet to a shag manufacturer. The real yearly value is about £15.

These rents are applied by the bridge-masters, who are appointed by the corporation, in repairing one half of the bridge, which divides the counties of Oxford and Northampton, and in improvements connected with the streets and highways.

In November 1823, when the accounts were audited, there was a balance in the hands of the bridge-masters of £255 18s 10d. Since that period, a further sum has been laid out upon the bridge in repairs, and in providing lamps for the town, the whole of which expenses will probably amount to about £100. In any application beyond the repairs of the bridge, the corporation are consulted.

### ALMSHOUSE.

The premises next mentioned in the decree, are an almshouse, situate near the church-yard, which it is stated was employed to lodge the most poor, old, and impotent people in the said town of Banbury.

This almshouse consists of 12 apartments, each of which is occupied by a poor person put in by the chamberlain of the corporation, upon the recommendation of the overseers. There is no endowment for the support of this establishment, but eight of the inmates receive from the chamberlain a portion of a charity, hereafter mentioned, called the Widows' Groats. The building was at one period in a very ruinous state, and was rebuilt by Francis Lord North and Guilford. The expenses of the repairs are now defrayed out of the poor rate.

### CHURCH ESTATE.

In the decree above-mentioned, the following premises are stated to have been given for the repair of the parish church of Banbury:—

1. Certain arable land and leys, lying in Neithrop and Cothrop Fields, in the parish of Banbury, viz. ; one acre and two butts in the fields of Neithrop ; one sidelong of pasture, one land of arable, another sidelong of pasture, two acres of arable, and two other acres of arable in Cothrop Fields, therein particularly described.

2. A burgage, or tenement, called the Church House, and then a school-house, situate on the north side of the church of Banbury, then in the tenure of the bailiff, aldermen, and and burgesses of Banbury, at the yearly rent of 6s 8d.

3. A burgage, or tenement, on the west side of Newland Street, in Banbury.

4. And four other burgages, or tenements, lying together, on the north side of Parson's Lane, in Banbury.

5. And four other burgages, or tenements, on the south side of the said lane.

In the year 1790, an Act was passed for the taking down and rebuilding the church of Banbury, and the corporation were thereby empowered to sell, in aid of the money to be raised for the purposes of the Act, such premises as they held for the repairs of the church, and as were mentioned in a schedule thereto annexed. Under these powers the corporation sold the whole of the premises given for that purpose, except the tenement described in the decree as situate on the north side of the church-yard, and as being then used as a school-house. This tenement was formerly used as a school, but it fell into decay, and was let by the corporation to John Clarke, upon a repairing lease for 21 years, from 6th January, 1804, at the rent of £4. which is now the full value of it. The lease has subsequently been assigned to Mr. Harris, and is now used by him for a plush manufactory.

It appears that these premises were not sold, because it was not known till lately upon what trusts the corporation held them. As they had been used for many years as a school, it was supposed by many that they had been given for that purpose; and the corporation, in order to prevent any dispute, soon after the institution of a national school in Banbury, paid the rent in aid of that establishment, and continued to do so up to the time of our inquiry.

It now remains to be determined, in what mode the premises can be best applied to the purpose for which they were given.

#### JOHN KNIGHT'S GIFT.

The decree next recites, that a tenement on the east side of Colebar Street, in Banbury, was given by the will of *John Knight*, of Banbury, baker, to the bailiff, aldermen, and burgesses, to the use of the poor of the said borough.

We could obtain no further information as to this charity; the premises are not known, nor could we learn what part of the town was called Colebar Street.

#### THE GIFTS OF EDWARD BRYTWELL AND JOAN KNIGHT.

It is next recited in the decree, that an annuity or yearly pension of 20s was given by *Edward Brytwell*, of Banbury, mercer, to the use of the poor of Banbury, to be paid yearly, for ever, out of a house in Barkhill Street, in Banbury, on Good Friday.

And that 20s more, yearly, was given by *Joan Knight*,

widow of one John Knight, to the poor aforesaid, out of her part of a lease of Ensham Meadows, in the parish of Banbury, to be paid during the lease by her executors.

We could not ascertain what the premises are upon which these annuities were charged; the latter is stated to have been charged upon leasehold property, and the term has, probably, expired.

#### HALHEAD'S CHARITIES.

It is further stated in the said decree; that 20s. per annum was given by *Henry Halhead*, of Banbury, draper, to the poor aforesaid; out of a tenement in Sheep Street, to be bestowed upon the poor in freize, where most need should be, by his executors, in the presence of the minister and the bailiff.

The yearly sum of £1. was paid for many years previously to 1812, by Joseph Wells, as being charged upon a tenement belonging to him in Red Lion Street, (there being no place in Banbury by the name of Sheep Street), and this sum was laid out in the purchase of clothing for three poor widows.

The premises, which were held by Joseph Wells, were sold in 1812, part to Mr. Kirby, an ironmonger, and the rest to J. W. Golby, esq. a solicitor, in Banbury, since which time nothing has been paid on account of the charity.

Upon application to Mr. Golby, he states, that he had referred to his title-deeds, which begin with a mortgage from Richard Halhead in 1683; that the first time the charge of 20s. is mentioned, is in a conveyance dated 15th May, 1777, by John Fortnum and his wife to Joseph Bridgewater, in which there is a covenant, that the premises were free from all incumbrances, "except a yearly payment, or rent-charge of 20s. issuing out of the west end of the messuage, burgage, or tenement, for the buying of gowns for four poor widows, if any such charge was ever made out or proved."

That in September, 1790, Joseph Bridgewater conveyed the whole of the premises to Joseph Wells, and that in the covenant against incumbrances there is an exception in precisely the same words.

That in January 1812, Joseph Wells conveyed part of the premises to Joseph Ward; and in the conveyance he covenanted that the premises were free from all incumbrances except the land-tax, and 2s 6d to the corporation of Banbury, but that there is no notice as to the 20s a year. That at the same time William Wells, the brother of Joseph Wells, purchased the west end of the premises, as a convenience to Joseph Wells, who resided there several years.

Mr. Golby further states, that in February 1815, the pre-

raises purchased by Joseph Ward were conveyed to him by the assignees under Ward's bankruptcy, and that no mention was made of the rent-charge of 20s; and that Mr. William Wells, and his family, continued owners of the west end of the premises until December 1821, when they sold them to Mr. Kirby.

Mr. Kirby states, that when he purchased this property, it was never mentioned to him that it was liable to the payment of the 20s; and that the vendors covenanted that the premises were free from incumbrances; he states, however, that if they are legally charged with the 20s, he has no wish to withhold the payment for the time he has been in possession of the premises.

From the circumstances above stated, there appears to be no doubt that the west end of these premises, being that part which now belongs to Mr. Kirby, is liable to the payment of 20s per annum, and such payment is probably referable to the gift of Henry Halhead.

It is further stated, in the said decree, that 10s per annum was given by the same person out of the corner shop, adjoining to Barkhill Street, to be employed to the maintenance of the true preaching of the gospel weekly, in Banbury; and in default of such lecture, to the teaching of poor children there.

The parish clerk collects two several sums of 10s on account of the vicar: one of these is paid out of a house in the Market-place, in the occupation of John West, late the property of Charles Wyatt, esq.; the other from a corner house in Red Lion Street, now the property of John Hopcraft.

The latter may probably be in respect of the gift of Henry Halhead.

#### WALTER CALCOTT'S GIFT.

The decree next recites that 20s yearly, was given by *Walter Calcott*, late of Williamscot, by will, to be paid to the poor of Banbury, out of a stock of £100. to be lent to poor artificers or occupiers, in Banbury or elsewhere.

By reference to the will of the said *Walter Calcott*, which bears date 10th November 1574, it appears that he bequeathed £100 to be put out by his executors in sums of £10 or £20 to five or ten persons in the country that would take the same, at 5 per cent interest; and he directed the £5 arising therefrom, to be distributed on St. Thomas's day, by two persons, to be appointed by his executors, in the following manner:—

	£.	s.	d.
To the poor of Banbury.....	1	-	-
Bloxham.....	-	6	8
Deddington.....	-	10	-
Chipping Norton.....	-	12	4
Hook Norton.....	-	10	-
Both the Bourtons.....	-	6	-
Mollington.....	-	6	-
Croppedy.....	-	10	-
Chipping Warden (Northamptonshire).....	-	6	-
Wardington and Williamscoth.....	-	8	-
	4	16	-
To the men who distribute.....	-	4	-
	£.	5	-

And if his said executors could not find takers for the money, in the country, he directed that they should put it out to the like use in London, or elsewhere; and he appointed Calcott Chambers, and William Calcott, executors. Nothing is now known of this money.

#### HALL'S GIFT.

The donation next mentioned in the decree, is that of *Thomas Hall*, of Bodicot, who, it is recited, gave *3s* yearly to the poor of Banbury, to be bestowed in bread.

This sum is laid out in bread every year, by *Richard Austin*, of Bodicot, the owner of the property which appears to be charged with this payment. The bread is always distributed by the parish clerk, amongst the poor, in Oxford Bar Street, on Good Friday.

#### LOANS.

The decree then recites that the following sums had been given for loans :

A stock of £40 given by *Mr. Oken*, of Warwick, to the town of Banbury, to be let out yearly to poor occupiers there, for which the aldermen and burgesses of Banbury stood bound for the making good of the said stock; and it is stated that there was paid out of the said stock yearly, of the benefit thereof to the use of the said poor, the meeting of the company, and to a preacher, £1 6s 8d.

A stock of £50 given by *Edward Brytwell*, to the town of Banbury, to be lent to poor artificers and occupiers there, freely, for ever.

The stock of £100 above-mentioned, given by the said *Walter Calcott*, to be put out by his executors, and their heirs and executors, yearly, to five or ten occupiers in Banbury, or any other place in the country that would take the same, either by £20 or £10 a piece.

It appears by an old book of accounts kept by the chamberlain of the corporation, that the sum of £14 was lent out

without interest, as late as 1779; but this sum, as well as the rest of these gifts, is now lost.

COAL FUND.

It is lastly recited in the said decree, that a stock of £22 18s 6d, given by divers charitable persons, was remaining in the hands of the churchwardens as a stock for the use of the poor of Banbury, in this sort, viz. in the summer time to buy coals, and in the winter to sell them to the poor, at such rate as the stock might still be preserved, and the surplus, if any, to be given to the said poor.

It appears that this stock was lost previous to the year 1750, as there is in the churchwardens' book, an entry containing the names of 26 persons, who subscribed to raise a stock wherewith to purchase coals for the poor of Banbury every summer, and to sell them in the winter; the whole amount of this subscription was £42 18s; and in 1750, it is stated, it was reduced to £16. It was afterwards increased by two several donations from *William Holbeck, esq.* to £41; but at a vestry meeting, held June 26th, 1778, the said *William Holbeck*, and *Lord Guilford*, who had also subscribed £25 to this fund, being present, it was agreed that this money, then amounting to £56 16s, together with such sum as should be due from the churchwardens for the Goose-lays, should be put into the public funds for the benefit of the school, which was accordingly done.

WIDOWS' GROATS.

The chamberlains of the corporation receives £9 12s 10d yearly from Mr. Reeves, of Lyon's-Inn, London, on account of a payment of £10 10s charged upon the land revenues of the crown, the remainder being deducted for fees and expenses.

In respect of this payment, he distributes to 12 poor widows 4d a week each, the deficiency being made up by the corporation, out of their own funds. Eight of the widows in the almshouses are appointed to receive this; the others reside elsewhere in Banbury.

PLESTOW'S CHARITY.

*Richard Plestow*, as it is entered in the churchwardens' book, amongst a list of benefactors, gave, in 1681, 40s yearly, to be disposed of in bread, at the discretion of his trustee (then living) *Edward Walker*, the elder, and the overseers of the poor, one moiety to be given in Christmas week, and the other in Easter week, and that he secured the



payment by lands lying in the fields of Williamscoot, for ever.

Under this entry is written, in a more modern hand, Paid by John Rogers, Wardington; and in a still more modern hand, John Hirons.

The estate upon which this payment is supposed to be charged is called Fearn Hill, and is situate in Wardington, which adjoins Williamscoot; it is now the property of Mr. James Brewerton, of North Aston.

The last receipt of this payment was in 1821, when Mr. James Hill, one of the churchwardens of Banbury, received of Mr. Brewerton the sum of £6, for which he gave him a receipt, dated 21st of March 1821, according to the form of an older one, which was sent to him with the money, as being the amount of three years rent, charged on Fearn Hill estate, and due to the poor of Banbury.

This sum Mr. Hill disposed of in bread amongst such poor persons as he thought, from infirmity or other cause, were objects of charity.

#### GIFTS OF SPRIGG AND OTHERS.

*Joshua Sprigg*, of Crayford, in the county of Kent, by will, dated 6th June 1684, as appears by a copy of proceedings in chancery, entered in the parish books, directed, that the yearly rents of certain premises in Middle Norton, should be reserved and laid by for the charitable use thereafter mentioned, viz. ; he bequeathed £500 to the corporation of Banbury, the place of his nativity, for building a workhouse, and to set the poor on work, viz. £400 to build, and £100 for a stock.

By decree in the court of chancery, dated 12th February 1706, in a cause of the Attorney-general versus Sprigg and others, it was ordered, that the defendant, William Sprigg, should pay to the corporation of Banbury, the said sum of £500 and £515 being the interest found to be due thereon by the master, at the time of making his report, with subsequent interest on the said two sums, from the 29th November preceding.

And it was further ordered, that the said corporation should, upon the receipt of the £500 and interest, give such surety, as the attorney general should direct, that they would lay out £400 in buying or building a workhouse, and £100 and the interest in a stock for employing the poor of the said corporation.

It appears that the corporation gave such bond, dated 3d April, 1707.

# CHARITIES AT BANBURY.

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They afterwards expended, in the purchase of certain premises in Banbury, for a workhouse.....	£.	s.	d.
In repairs and buildings thereon.....	227	5	—
In conveyances and other expenses.....	175	15	4
	37	11	4
	440	11	8
They also placed in the hands of Lord Guilford.....	500	—	—
Left in Mr. Sprigg's hands.....	119	9	7
Lost to Mr. Burdolls, when he undertook the management of the workhouse .....	23	17	10
	643	7	5
Making, with the above sum of .....	440	11	8
	£.	1,083	19. 11

this being the amount of the principle and interest received by them.

By other entries in the books above-mentioned, it appears, that in 1728, Francis Lord Guilford paid in the sum of £600, being £500 derived from the will of Joshua Sprigg, and £100 being trust-money, given, to be employed for the use of the workhouse, by the will of Mr. Metcalfe.

There is also entered, cash received, being Captain Smith's money, £112. 12s.

By deed poll, dated 29th September 1750, Francis Lord North and Guilford acknowledged that he had that day received, from the mayor, aldermen, and capital burgesses of the borough of Banbury, the sum of £750; part of which said sum is therein stated to have been taken out of certain monies given by one Sprigg, for the benefit of the said town of Banbury; other part out of monies given by one Metcalfe to the said town, for the same purpose; and other part out of monies given by one Smith, for the same purpose; which said sum of £750 the said Lord North and Guilford promised to repay to the said mayor, &c. or their successors, with interest, at the rate of £4 per cent, on the 29th March then next ensuing; and for better securing the same, he demised to the said mayor, &c. and their successors, a messuage or tenement, with the appurtenances, in Drayton, in the county of Oxford; and certain inclosed grounds, called the High Grounds, containing, by estimation, 45 acres, with their appurtenances; also a close adjoining to the open field of Neithrop, in the parish of Banbury, called Luke's Ground; then divided into two parts, containing, by estimation, 44 acres, with the appurtenances; also all that south part of the high grounds known by the name of Drayton Elm Ground, containing, by estimation, 50 acres, with the appurtenances; also a close or pasture ground, with the appurtenances, called Hob-hill, containing, by estimation, 11 acres; also three pieces of meadow ground, known by the name of

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Thorny Meadows, with the appurtenances, containing, by estimation, 10 acres; also three other pieces of meadow, commonly belonging to and enjoyed with Drayton Elm Ground, containing, by estimation, 18 acres, with the appurtenances: all the said premises being situate in the fields and liberties of Drayton aforesaid; to hold the same, to them and their successors, for the term of 1,000 years, subject to redemption, upon payment of the said sum of £750 with interest.

The workhouse in Banbury is now kept in repair out of the poor-rate, and no manufactory is carried on there.

The chamberlain of the corporation receives £30 a year from the steward of Lord Guilford, in respect of the £750 secured by mortgage, as above-mentioned.

Out of this, he pays to the overseers, annually, £26, which has always been carried to the account of the poor-rate, and the residue, £4 a year, he pays to a baker, who provides 20 loaves the first Sunday in every month, which are distributed at the church, by the churchwardens, generally amongst old widows.

### THOMAS METCALFE'S CHARITIES.

*Thomas Abraham*, alias *Metcalfe*, by will, dated 22d July 1712, devised to his wife Mary, for life, the messuage, gardens, and orchards, which he then occupied, in Parson's-lane, Banbury; and another messuage, with the appurtenances, in Banbury, called the Cock Inn; and also a messuage, orchard, and garden, in Bodicot, and a messuage in North-Bar Street, Banbury, with the gardens thereto belonging: and after her decease, he devised the same, with the appurtenances, to his nephew Henry Metcalfe, his heirs, and assigns; and he declared that the said devises were upon trust, that his wife and his nephew, and his heirs, should yearly pay £13 out of the rents and profits thereof, unto his trustees, thereafter named, to be disposed of to the following uses, viz.—

In trust, to pay £10 part thereof, every other year, to place out two poor boys, born in the town of Banbury, apprentices to such trades as his trustees should think fit; and every other year to dispose of £10 in clothing six poor widows, living in Banbury.

And to pay 40s yearly, to the trustees of the charity school of Banbury, as long as the same should continue.

And to expend the remaining sum of 20s yearly, in seeing the said trusts performed; and he appointed his brother and other persons, trustees for life; and after the decease of the survivor, he directed that the said trust should be in his nephew, Henry Metcalfe, and his heirs, as long as he, or any issue of

hisbody, should inherit the premises, together with the vicar of Banbury, the rector of Broughton, and the vicar of Adderbury, and their successors for ever; but in case his nephew, or his heirs, should sell the inheritance of the said messuages, or the major part of them, then that the said vicars and rector, and their successors, should be sole trustees.

By indenture, dated 27th September 1819, reciting the will of the said Thomas Metcalfe, and further reciting, that John Metcalfe Wardle, and Henry Metcalfe Wardle, being entitled to the premises thereby devised in fee, had sold the messuage, called the Cock Inn, to Nathaniel Goodwin, and the messuage in Bodicot to John Nicol, and had covenanted that the said premises should be discharged from any part of the said annual payment of £13, and that they had contracted with Richard Taylor for the sale of the messuage and premises in Parson's-lane, except certain parts of the garden lately thereto belonging, and which they had agreed to sell in different portions, to Thomas Nasbey, John Aplin, William Stacey, Robert Jarvis, James Hill, and Joseph Cooke; and further reciting, that it had been agreed that the said sum of £13 should be wholly paid by the said Richard Taylor, his heirs, and assigns, in exoneration of all the other premises charged therewith; and that a term of 2,000 years should be created and limited to trustees in the premises to be purchased by the said Richard Taylor, for indemnifying the other parties: It is witnessed, that in pursuance of the said agreement, the said John and Henry Metcalfe Wardle, with the consent of the said Richard Taylor, and of the said Thomas Nasbey, and the other purchasers of the gardens above-mentioned, who were parties to the said indenture, demised to Benjamin Aplin, John Munton, and William Jeffs, their executors, administrators, and assigns, the said messuage and premises in Parson's-lane, as then divided from the other parts of the garden above-mentioned, for a term of 2,000 years, from the 26th September, in trust, to permit Richard Taylor, his heirs and assigns, to enjoy the said premises until default should be made in the payment of the said annual sum of £13; and, if default should be made in the payment thereof, to enter upon the said premises, and take the rents, and levy the arrears; and it was provided, that, upon the decease of any of the trustees, new trustees should be appointed in the manner therein particularly mentioned, which provides for the interest of all parties.

Previously to the year 1819, when the premises were sold as above-mentioned, the annual sum of £13 was regularly paid, when demanded, by John Metcalfe Wardle, esq.

The premises sold to Richard Taylor are still in his possession, and are worth upwards of £40 per annum; since he purchased he has not made any payment on account of this charity, so that there was due from him, at Lady-day 1824, about which period our enquiry took place, the sum of £61. 15s, as the arrears for four years and three quarters. Mr. Taylor declared his inability to pay these arrears at the time, but promised to pay to Mr. Benjamin Aplin, one of the lessees in trust, under the deed of 1819, £20 on the 12th April, the like sum on the 10th May, and the sum of £21 15s on the 5th July following. The first and second of these payments have been made.

According to the directions of the testator, £10. was to have been disposed of every alternate year in clothing six poor widows of Banbury.

Mr. Wardle used to appoint six of the widows residing in the almshouse; and consequently six widows of the almshouse applied in 1821 and 1823, to Mr. Aplin, a draper in Banbury, who had furnished the clothing in former years, for the usual amount of clothing, and he supplied them; his bill remained unpaid till 12th April 1824, when the £20, received from Richard Taylor was paid in discharge of it. No apprentices have been placed out, nor has any payment been made to the Blue-coat School since 1819.

The nonpayment of this charity is to be attributed in a great measure to want of attention on the part of the trustees, viz, the vicar of Banbury, the rector of Broughton, and the vicar of Adderbury; but we trust that in future they will take proper measures for the appointment of fit objects to receive the benefit of the charity, and will regularly apply for the payment of the rent-charge.

Of the arrears due at Lady-day 1824, there were applicable to the binding out apprentices.....	£.	s.	d.
Due to Mr. Aplin, the draper, for clothing.....	27	10	-
To the Blue-coat School.....	20	-	-
To the trustees.....	9	10	-
	4.	15	-
£.	61.	15	-

#### MARY METCALFE'S CHARITIES.

*Mary Abraham*, alias *Metcalfe*, widow, by will, dated 11th May, 1723, devised to her nephew, Henry Abraham, alias *Metcalfe*, and his heirs, all her estates in the parishes of Calworth and Eydon, in the County of Northampton, in trust, for the payment of the following legacies, viz. :—

To the Schoolmaster of the church school, in the town of Banbury, and his successors, for ever, an annuity of £5, issuing and payable out of the above estates, on the feast of Saint Thomas the Apostle, upon condition that the said

schoolmaster and his successors, should read or cause to be read, divine service in the parish church of Banbury, every Wednesday and Friday, throughout the year, and also on other days in the week, if the vicar should be necessarily absent.

To the vicar of Banbury and his assistant, and their successors, an annuity of £5 out of the said estates, to be paid by two equal payments, upon condition, that they should distribute the same, as they should see necessity, among the sick poor, whom they or either of them should visit, and that they should give an account, yearly, to her executor, the said Henry Metcalfe, or his heirs, how they should dispose of the same.

To six poor families of the town of Banbury, an annuity of £5 out of the same estates, to be given in twelpenny loaves, weekly, at the discretion of her said executor and his heirs, provided that such six poor families should be such as should be past work, by age or accident, of large families, and should live orderly, and frequent the church.

And by a codicil to her will, dated 11th May 1723, she gave to the charity school of the parish of Banbury, so long as the children should be brought up in the doctrine of the church of England, as by law established, an annuity of 40s, payable out of the said estates,

The nephew of the testatrix, Henry Metcalfe, by his will, dated 1st July 1746, directed that the annuities above-mentioned should be disposed of by the vicar of Banbury, the rector of Broughton, and the vicar of Alderbury, for the time being, together with the person in possession of the estates charged with the payment, as long as they should remain in his family.

In 1811, the estates of the testatrix, in the parishes of Eydon and Oulworth, were sold by Mr. Wardle, the then proprietor; and a portion thereof, called the Black Pool Hill Farm, consisting of a messuage and 44 A. 1 R. 20 P. of land, in Eydon, was conveyed, in consideration of £2,450, to Richard Faulkner and his heirs, free from all incumbrances, except, amongst other things, the annual sum of £17 charged upon the said premises, by Mrs. Mary Metcalfe, for charitable purposes.

This farm is still in the possession of Richard Faulkner.

The church school, to the master of which the first mentioned annuity of £5 is payable, was formerly kept in the house in the church-yard, mentioned in our Report of the church estate. For several years past no school has been kept there, so that there is no person now qualified to receive this annuity.

The next mentioned annuity of £5 is regularly paid to the vicar, and it is always added by him to a voluntary subscription, which is raised annually, in the town of Banbury, for the same purposes as those pointed out by the testatrix. Great attention is paid by the subscribers to the application of this fund, which amounts annually to nearly £200.

The annuity of £5 for bread, was paid by Mr. Wardle, through inadvertence, for some time after he had sold the Eydon and Culworth estates; it was regularly transmitted to Richard Haddon, a baker, who supplied six fourpenny loaves weekly, and these he gave to six poor women, who were recommended to him by different persons in the town. He supplied the bread till April 1820, since which time nothing has been given away, and there is due to him £2. 12s. for the last half-year's bread, no payment having been made to him since October 1819. There was therefore due from Richard Faulkner, at Lady-day 1824, £22. 10s. as the arrears of this payment for 4½ years. When this is received, £2. 12s. will be payable to the baker; and we have recommended the vicar to distribute the residue in bread, weekly, until the whole shall be exhausted.

The annuity of £2, payable to the Blue-coat school, has not been paid since Michaelmas 1818; there was therefore due from Richard Faulkner, on this account, at Lady-day 1824, the sum of £11 for 5½ years' arrears.

As the vicars of Banbury and Adderbury, and the rector of Broughton, were appointed trustees by the nephew and executor of the testatrix, we trust that in future they will take care that these charities are properly paid and disposed of.

#### HENRY METCALFE'S CHARITY.

*Henry Abraham*, alias *Metcalfe*, by will, dated 1st July 1746, after appointing the vicar of Banbury, the rector of Broughton, and the vicar of Adderbury, and their successors, to be trustees with the person in possession of his estates at Eydon and Culworth, as long as any of his relations should have them, for Mary Metcalfe's charities, gave to the same trustees, £100 stock in the old annuities, in trust to dispose of the dividends, yearly, on Saint Thomas's-day, among the poor of the town of Banbury.

He also gave to the same trustees, £50 more of the said stock, in trust, to apply the dividends to the use of the charity school in Banbury, as long as it should continue, and in case of its dropping, he directed the produce to be added to the produce of the £100 above-mentioned, and distributed amongst the poor.

The £150 stock, old South-sea annuities, was transferred

by Dr. Lamb, formerly vicar of Banbury, in July 1821, into the names of the Rev. T. W. Lancaster, vicar of Banbury; Rev. Charles Wyatt, rector of Broughton; and the Rev. Holford Cotton, vicar of Adderbury.

No dividends have been received on this stock since the transfer was made. Up to that period they were received by Dr. Lamb; but, it appears, that from some inadvertence, he did not pay the dividends due to the Blue-coat school after 1814, so that the amount is due from him to that charity, subject to some deduction for property tax.

The dividends payable to the poor were disposed of by Dr. Lamb during the time he received them; and since the stock has been transferred, Mr. Lancaster has paid £3 per annum, which has been distributed in bread, under his directions, amongst poor women of Banbury, every Saint Thomas's day. Of the dividends, therefore, which are now due, Mr. Lancaster is entitled to the sum he has advanced; and £1. 10s per annum is payable to the treasurer of the Blue-coat school.

#### COUNTRESS OF ARRAN'S CHARITY.

The only account we have of the foundation of this charity is derived from entries in the book of accounts, which commences in the year 1767 (that being apparently the period of the establishment of the charity); the first of these entries purports to be an extract from "Lady Arran's Settlement of the Woolpack, by indentures of lease and release, &c." and is to the following effect:—

To have and to hold the said messuages, tenements, inn, and premises, thereinbefore released to the said Thomas Cartwright and William Cartwright, their heirs and assigns, in trust, to pay the rents and profits thereof to Elizabeth Countess of Arran for her life, and after her decease to pay and apply, or permit the mayor and aldermen of Banbury, and such other of the chief inhabitants, as the said Thomas and William Cartwright should appoint, to take and receive the said rents and profits, and apply the same for and towards the support, maintenance, and education, of such poor children, or other persons, as should for ever thereafter be harboured, kept or employed, in the workhouse or workhouses erected or to be erected in the said town or corporation of Banbury, or for such other charitable uses as the said Thomas and William Cartwright, and Richard Snow, parties thereto, and the survivors and survivor of them, their heirs and assigns, should from time to time direct and appoint, touching the application thereof, and as they, with the advice and concurrence of the said mayor, aldermen, and



chief inhabitants of Banbury, should think most beneficial and advantageous for the poor of the said town and corporation.

The other entry is intituled, "An Abstract from Lady Arran's appointment of her estates by deed poll," and is as follows:—

"Unto the corporation or town of Banbury, for the use of the poor, I ratify and confirm to them the rents and profits of the houses there purchased, in the name of my said brother Cartwright, and others, which shall accrue after my decease, for the uses expressed in the deed of purchase thereof, with the addition of £100 to be paid out of the residue of my estate not herein or by my will disposed of."

The property belonging to this charity consists of—

1. A dwelling house, with a yard and garden adjoining, in High-street, Banbury. The buildings on these premises were burnt down about the year 1804. The premises were afterwards let on lease, dated 22d January 1805, to Arthur Lewis, for the term of 21 years from 25th March preceding, at the rent of £24. This was a very beneficial lease to the charity, the lessee having laid out as much as £500 on the premises. A proposal has lately been made by Mr. Burroughs Kirby, to whom the lease has been assigned, to take a new lease at the rent of £27, which the trustees are disposed to accept, considering that the fair value of the premises, and Mr. Kirby being a substantial person.

2. A house in Church-lane, and a yard and shed adjoining. This was let up to Lady-day 1820 to Joseph Hopkins, as yearly tenant, at £8 a year; he then gave it up, leaving the buildings in a bad state of repair. The premises were then advertised to be let, but without success, till November 1822, when it was taken by ——— Manning, upon an agreement for three years, at the rent of £6, upon the condition of his putting the premises into repair. Since he has taken possession he has proceeded in the repairs, but he has not yet completed them. This is the best rent that could be obtained.

There is also £100 stock, three per cent reduced annuities, standing in the name of Robert Brayne, esq.; there is no declaration of trust respecting it. This stock was purchased in his name by the executors of the late treasurer, Mr. Wyatt, soon after his death, in lieu of £100 like stock, which stood in the name of Mr. Wyatt, with other money belonging to himself. Stock to this amount was originally purchased with money received from William Cartwright, one of the first trustees.

This charity is entirely under the management of a treasurer,

who is appointed from time to time by the corporation, who annually audit the accounts.

The income, amounting yearly, to £33, is subject only to a deduction of 8s yearly, for insurance; the land-tax, which was charged upon the premises, having been purchased in 1799, for £16. 5s 7d.

The clear income is applied in putting out apprentices: Between Lady-day 1815 and Lady-day 1822, there were placed out 17 boys, generally with premiums of £10 each.

Since Lady-day 1822, from which time Mr. Brayne has been the treasurer, 14 boys have been bound out with premiums of £15 each; he has been enabled to put out this number, having received from the executors of Mr. Wyatt, a balance of £154. 16s 8d.

This balance appears to have arisen gradually from the number of apprentices put out having fallen short of what the income would have borne. Mr. Brayne, on accepting the office of treasurer, gave public notice that there was money in hand for the purposes of this charity, and had so many applications, that, if the funds had permitted, he could have bound out a greater number.

The children that are placed out are generally taken from the national school.

There was at the settlement of the accounts, in November 1823, a balance against the charity of £1. 5s 7d.

#### HENRY SMITH'S CHARITY.

The parish of Banbury is entitled to a share of the rents of an estate at Telescomb, in the county of Sussex, which forms part of the extensive charities of *Henry Smith*.

The proportion of the rents, transmitted by the treasurer to the churchwardens of Banbury, is about £35 per annum. In each of the years 1822 and 1823, £35. 5s 4d was received, and disposed of in the purchase of flannel, which was distributed amongst 70 or 80 poor persons of good character, and principally such as were above the state of paupers.

#### LOST CHARITIES.

There are several benefactions mentioned in an old churchwardens' book, which it appears useless to enumerate, as nothing is known of their having ever existed beyond what is there stated.

## PARISH OF CHARLBURY.

### SCHOOL.

There is a school in this parish, founded by Mrs. *Ann Walker*, who appointed the principal and fellows of Brazen Nose College, Oxford, special visitors.

### POOR BOYS' CLOSE.

There is in the parish of Charlbury, a close of land, about two acres, called Poor Boys' Close, which is supposed to have been left many years ago for apprenticing children; but when, or by whom, is not known.

The land is copyhold, and held under St. John's College, Oxford, to which it pays a small quit rent.

The names of George Basket, Thomas Kirby, and George Holloway, are entered on the court rolls as trustees for the use of the charity. When new trustees are appointed, the expense (generally between £2 and £3) is paid out of the rent.

The close is let to Edward Walden, as yearly tenant, at £7, which is a high rent. The fence is very bad, and the expense of keeping it in order is paid by the trustees. This expense is, on an average, £1 a year.

The rent is received by one of the trustees, who keeps the accounts of the charity. In the last eight or ten years, nearly as many boys have been bound out. The sum of 10 guineas has been given, but it is generally a smaller sum, and the parents of the apprentice make an addition.

There was a balance of £26. 3s 1½d in hand on the 25th December, 1822; and there were three boys ready to be bound out at the time of our enquiry, in December 1823.

The children are always bound out of the parish to good trades. The boys are chosen from the poorest sort, and from amongst the largest families.

### STOCK.

The dividends arising from £510. 17s 1d stock in the late five per cent bank annuities, which now stands in the names of the Rev. Robert Wetherell, and the Rev. John Cobb, vicar of Charlbury, has been, as far back as can be traced, carried to the account of the poor's rate of Charlbury.

This stock was purchased with the sum of £500 received for the sale of some premises situate near a wharf in Banbury, belonging to the Oxford Canal Company, which were conveyed to the company by indentures of lease and release, dated 1st and 2d August 1777.

On referring to the title-deeds delivered up to the Canal  
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company at the time of the sale, it appears, that the premises in question were conveyed to Christopher Finnimore and Sir Robert Banks Jenkinson, in October 1724, in consideration of £250.

The conveyance to the Canal Company in 1777, above referred to, is executed by Sir Banks Jenkinson, son and heir at law of Sir Robert Banks Jenkinson, and recites, that no part of the sum of £250 stated in the purchase deed of October 1724, belonged to the said Sir Robert; but that it belonged to the minister, churchwardens, overseers, and inhabitants of Charlbury, and that the name of Sir Robert, was only used in trust for them.

In a declaration of trust, dated 25th November 1800, and executed by Mr. Wetherell and Dr. Cobb, in whose names the stock stands, until it can be sold, and land purchased therewith, it is recited, that "Sir Banks Jenkinson, in trust for the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor, and other inhabitants of the parish of Charlbury, was well and sufficiently seised of, and legally entitled to, a certain messuage or tenement, yard, buildings, and appurtenances, thereunto belonging, situate in Cow Fair, adjoining the company's wharf in Banbury, the rents and profits whereof had been, from time to time, received by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Charlbury, and applied by them for and towards the relief and support of the poor of the said parish."

In the returns made to Parliament in 1786, the sum of £500 is stated as being vested in the vestry of this parish, being the produce of a workhouse and land, which belonged to the parish, and was sold to the Oxford Canal Company; but no name of any donor, or date, or object, of the charity, is mentioned; and, from the documents above stated, it does not appear that this property is applicable to any charitable purpose.

#### GIFFORD'S CHARITY.

*Thomas Gifford*, (as recited in the indenture next following,) by indenture, dated 18th October, 34th Eliz. for the considerations therein mentioned, demised to George Tennant, of Charlbury, and others, of Charlbury, Fawler, and Finstock, all that messuage or tenement, with the appurtenances, situate between the church-yard of Charlbury on the west, and a tenement in the occupation of Widow Rawlins on the east; two acres of ground, in the north field of Charlbury, in a slade called the Church Slade; one other tenement, with the appurtenances, in Charlbury, between the land called the Burial, on the south, and the tenement of Thomas Jennings

on the north; one other tenement or cottage, with the appurtenances, situate in a certain close on the east side of Charlbury, called Playing Close; together with the said close abutting upon a lane called Browne Lane, on the north, except the use of the messuage adjoining to the church-yard, for keeping the court of the manor of Charlbury, at the liberty of the lord of the said manor; to hold to the lessees, their executors, &c., to the only use, benefit, profit, and commodity, of all the tenants and inhabitants of Charlbury, Fawler, and Finstock, and to the use, benefit, and profit, of all those that had any right, title, or jurisdiction, within the said towns of Charlbury, Fawler, and Finstock, except only; that the close called the Playing Close, and the tenement, or cottage, thereupon, should be to the only use, profit, and commodity, of the tenants and inhabitants of Charlbury, and to all those that had any right or title within the limits and bounds of Charlbury, and to no other use, from the feast of St. John the Baptist then last, for the term of 998 years, without impeachment of waste, yielding unto the chief lord of the manor of Charlbury the sum of 4s at Lady-day and Michaelmas, annually.

By indenture, dated 19th November 1793, William Cole (described as the survivor of certain persons therein named), reciting the indenture above abstracted, and that the remainder of the term was then vested by survivorship in the said William Cole, subject to the trusts, assigned the said premises to Sir Robert Banks Jenkinson, and others, for the several uses, intents, and purposes, in the said recited indenture expressed.

By indenture, dated 2d May 1801, reciting the lease of Thomas Gifford, Samuel Harris, in whom the premises demised were then vested, assigned the same for the remainder of the term to George Duke of Marlborough, and others, except the cottage or tenement situate and being in the close called the Playing Close, which had been, by indenture, dated 25th March, 1 Geo. III, bargained and sold to Francis Wyatt, for the residue of the said term.

By indenture, dated 18th April 1815, George Duke of Marlborough and others assigned the same premises to William Albright and others, except the cottage before excepted, for the residue of the said term.

Of the premises originally demised by Thomas Gifford, a part of the messuage first mentioned, as being near the church-yard of Charlbury, is now used as the schoolhouse of Mrs. Walker's school, having been fitted up by the parish for that purpose. The other part of the messuage, or at least what, from its situation, is conceived to be so, now belongs to Mr.

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Malins, of Charlbury, as will be stated hereafter; the same having been, as it is supposed, taken by the hamlets of Fawler and Pinstock, in severalty, as their share of the joint interest which they had with Charlbury in the premises, or part of the premises, demised by Gifford, and having been exchanged by those hamlets with Mr. Malins.

The two acres of land in Church Stade are let for £2 a year, which is the full value, as the tenant is bound to drain them. This rent is paid to the overseer, and by him carried to his general account, in pursuance of an order of vestry, made about the year 1816, which applies to all the rents of this estate.

The next tenement, described as being between the land called the Burial, on the south, and the house of Thomas Jennings, on the north, is not now standing, nor is the site known as belonging to the trustees.

The cottage situate upon the Playing Close has been disposed of, and the purchase money applied in erecting a workhouse.

The Playing Close (nearly three quarters of an acre) is used occasionally as a horse fair, and parts of it are let off for gardens and conveniences to the houses around, at different rents, amounting in the whole to about £3 a year, also carried to the poor's rate; but the trustees have reserved to themselves a power of resuming all these small portions of ground whenever they wish to do so.

Upon a part of this Playing Ground a school has lately been erected by subscription, called the Charlbury British School. It is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, except the interest of a legacy of £100, lately bequeathed to it by Robert Spendlove.

## CHAPELRY OF CHADDLINGTON.

### CHURCH ESTATE.

By an inquisition taken under a commission of charitable uses, and dated 20th September 1605, it was found, that the churchwardens of the chapel of St. Nicholas in Chadlington, in the parish of Charlbury, time out of mind, had had the use, possession, disposition, setting, and letting, of one yard-land, with the appurtenances, in the common field of Chadlington, then in the occupation of John Colgrave; and also of one tenement, commonly called the Church House, situate on the east end of Chadlington, with a backside and two acres of arable land, and a cow pasture in the

common field there, to the said tenement belonging; and it was further found, that the said yard-land, long before the time of memory, was given by one Johane Ferforde, to be employed by the churchwardens and their successors for the maintenance of the said chapel of St. Nicholas, and that Thomas Carter and John Bishop, churchwardens of the said chapel (the 25th of July, 25th Eliz.), for a fine of £20 had demised the said yard-land for a term of 81 years, at the rent of 5s, the residue of which term had come to the said John Colgrave; and it was further found, that the said tenement, close, two acres of land, and cow pasture, were, at the time of the inquisition, in the possession of one Humphrey Kôrke, but by what right the jurors knew not, but the fines, rents, and profits, of the said tenement, close, two acres, and cow pasture, had been, time out of mind, and then were, converted and employed by the said churchwardens, with the consent of the inhabitants of the said town of Chadlington, to the maintenance of the said chapel of St. Nicholas, but who was the donor thereof the jurors did not know.

By the decree of the commissioners, dated 28th September, 3d James, it was ordered and adjudged, that the inheritance and estate, in fee simple, of and in the said yard-land, with the appurtenances, and of and in the said tenement, backside, two acres of arable, and cow pasture, in the said inquisition mentioned, should be and remain in Ralph Hutchinson, vicar of Charlbury, and 10 others, their heirs and assigns, for ever, in trust, that all profits, fines, rents, &c., thereafter arising out of the premises or any of them, should be for ever employed and disposed for the maintenance of the said chapel of St. Nicholas, in fit and due reparation, and for such other uses as they had theretofore been employed in; and therefore, the commissioners decreed, that the said trustees should suffer the churchwardens of the said chapel, yearly, to receive and gather the rents and profits of the premises, which churchwardens, having received the same, should employ so much thereof towards the uses aforesaid, and should yearly make an account to their successors; and they further decreed, that the trustees should not demise the said premises, but by deed indented, and not for above the term of 21 years, nor until the premises should be within three years of expiration of any former lease; and they further decreed, that upon the death of any five of the trustees, the survivors should make a new feoffment of the premises, to five other inhabitants or neighbours of the town of Chadlington, the vicar of Charl-

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bury always to be one, if it might be, to the use of the feoffees and feoffors, their heirs and assigns, for ever, in trust, to employ the rents and profits thereof, in the manner before expressed, so that whenever the number should come to be but five, they should, within 14 days, by a new feoffment, be made up to the number of eleven.

By indenture, dated 10th October 1809, between John Cobb, D.D., Thomas Brookes, George Bulley, William Watton, Robert Barnes, and Thomas Tomes, surviving feoffees of the messuage, lands, &c. thereafter mentioned, of the one part, and Abram Tyzack Rawlinson, esquire, Sir Edwin B. Sandys, Jonah Smith, William Bagnall, and Thomas Holloway, of the other part; it is witnessed, that in pursuance of a certain decree, made at Oxford, 28th September, 3d James, the parties of the first part granted, enfeoffed, and confirmed, a messuage or tenement, called the Church House, and two acres of arable land, in the common fields of the east and west ends of Chadlington, and common of pasture for one cow, and also one yard-land of arable meadow and pasture ground, dispersed in the common fields, in the east end of Chadlington, commonly called the Church-yard Land, therein particularly described, with its abutments; to hold the same to the use of the grantors and grantees, their heirs and assigns, in trust, for the maintenance of the chapel of St. Nicholas, in Chadlington, and for such other uses as they had theretofore been employed in, according to the tenor and effect of the said order and decree.

By indenture, dated 11th October 1811, the Rev. John Cobb, D.D., and others, described as the most part of the feoffees, named by the deed, dated 10th October 1809, reciting the decree above-mentioned, with respect to the power of leasing particularly; and reciting, that by virtue of an Act of Parliament then lately passed, an allotment of land had been set out, though not then awarded, in lieu of the yard-land, and common of pasture, and two acres of cow pasture, and other rights thereto belonging, situate near the west end downs, and containing, by admeasurement, 30 acres, more or less; it is witnessed, that in consideration of the sum of £300 paid to the said Trustees, they demised to William Bagnall, his executors, administrators, and assigns, all that new inclosed allotment, to hold the same from the date thereof for 21 years, paying yearly £20 at Lady-day and Michaelmas, with covenants for good management and for keeping in repair.

The land called the Church Land, consists of about 32 acres of land, let to William Bagnall, by the lease above



abstracted, and which is now vested in Richard Cooke, by assignment.

The rent reserved, is, under the circumstances, a fair rent. The sum of £300 was obtained, as a large sum of money was required for new paving the chapel, and to this purpose it was applied. The annual rent is carried to one account, out of which every expense, usually paid by a church rate, is defrayed. There has been no chapel rate made for a great many years.

There was, in February 1824, a balance of about £40 in hand, £20 of which would be required to pay a rate, made on the inclosure, and the rest in repairing one of the bells which had received an injury.

There are also three houses called the church houses opposite the chapel-yard, the rents of which are applied in the repairs of the chapel. They let upon an average for 2½ guineas each. The rent is sometimes paid by the individuals, and sometimes by the parish, as the persons occupying them are always poor people,

#### CONSTABLE'S CLOSE.

There is belonging to Chadlington, a small piece of ground, situate in the hamlet of Dean, in the parish of Spelsbury, called Constable's Close, consisting of an allotment of 26 perches.

This is now let for 5s a year, and the rent is carried to the church estate account.

There is also the further sum of 6s, which is received annually from the lessee of the great tithes; and is called straw money, being paid in lieu of straw for the use of the church. This is also added to the same account.

#### HEMMING'S CHARITY.

*Alice Hemming*, by will, dated 9th March, 14th Charles I, gave and devised a messuage or tenement, with the appurtenances, called Little Baggs, and also two closes to the same belonging, containing, by estimation, five acres, in Orset, in Essex, to the use of several persons therein named, and ultimately to the use and behoof of the daughters of Ellen Rawson, and the heirs of their bodies, and for default of such issue, then to the use and behoof of such persons as should be churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the parish of Orset and Chadlington, respectively, and six or more of the ablest parishioners of each of them, such as the churchwardens and overseers in each of the said parishes should enfeoff with the premises, equally to be divided between the said parishes,

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provided they should pay out of the lands aforesaid, one quarter of the rents, yearly, towards the maintaining a lecture in the parish church of Orset, for every Lord's day in the afternoon; one other quarter to the poor in the parish of Orset; the third towards maintaining a lecture in the chapel of Chadlington; on every Lord's day in the afternoon, and the fourth quarter to the poor of Chadlington; and that when all the feoffees in either of the parishes, but two, should be dead, the two surviving should make other feoffees to the uses aforesaid, the same course to be observed for ever in both parishes.

We have not been able to obtain a copy of the will of Alice Hemming; but the above extract is taken from an admittance entered on the court rolls of the manor of Orset, dated 15th April, 1644.

Besides the estate at Orset, the trustees of this charity are possessed of some houses in London. The earliest account which we have been able to discover of this latter property, is derived from a lease, dated February 1st, 1699, whereby the Rev. William Wigan, rector of Orset, and others, of Orset; Sir Richard Osbaldeston, of Chadlington, and others, of the same place, in consideration of the rents thereby reserved, demised to Thomas Umfreville, all those several ancient and decayed messuages; or tenements, and tofts, or parcels of ground, whereon formerly stood nine messuages; afterwards reduced to three, and a stable, and hay loft, and yard, and parcel of ground, thereunto belonging, situate in Northumberland-alley, *alias* Northumberland-place, in the parish of St. Catherine, Coleman-street, near Aldgate, London, theretofore in the occupation of Alice Hemming, widow of Isaac Hemming, fishmonger, to hold the same from Lady-day then next, for 61 years, yielding, during the first two years of the said term, a pepper-corn, and for the residue of the said term, 40s yearly. The lessee covenanted, within the first two years, to pull down the ancient buildings, and to erect, in a good and substantial manner, two or more dwelling houses; and to complete and finish the same, and to leave the same in repair at the end of his term.

The copyhold estate at Orset was enfranchised by indenture, dated 4th January 1736, whereby Richard Lechmere, being seised in fee of the manor of Orset, in consideration of £15 and an annual quit rent of 2s, granted, bargained, and sold, released, and enfranchised, unto the then trustees of Chadlington and Orset, their heirs, and assigns, the premises held of the manor of Orset, devised by Alice Hemming, paying yearly 2s.

These premises have been, from time to time, conveyed to new trustees, as directed; the last appointment bears date 1st February 1821, and therein the trust property is thus described:—

“ A piece of ground in Northumberland-alley, demised on a building lease, to David Evans, at the yearly rent of £20. 10s; also a messuage, or tenement in Orset, with the lands and appurtenances thereto belonging, called Little Bags; also certain closes thereto belonging, containing, by estimation, 24 acres, all in the occupation of John Mobbs, at the yearly rent of £30; also a messuage, or tenement in Orset, called the Town-house, in the occupation of Joseph Binder, at the rent of £22; also a parcel of ground, containing five acres, called Pie Corner Field, in the occupation of Stephen Robinson, at the rent of £10.”

The premises in Northumberland-alley were demised by indenture, dated 3d August 1808, by the then trustees, to David Evans, for 61 years, from 29th September preceding, at the yearly rent of £20. 10s. It is stated in the lease, that the ground was let to the highest bidder. The premises are thus described in the lease:—

“ A piece of ground, lying on the west side of Northumberland-alley, leading from Fenchurch-street to Crutched friars, abutting westward on the workhouse of St. Catherine Cole; on the south, on the wall of warehouses belonging to the East India Company; on the east, in part, extending to the passage next mentioned, on old houses or buildings, or the site whereon they lately stood, also reported to be purchased by the East India Company; and on the north, by other old houses or buildings, also reported to be purchased by the East India Company, containing, in breadth from north to south, on the west side, 50 feet; from west to east, on the south side, 29 feet six inches, from south to north, on the east side, in part, to the said passage, and including the same, 26 feet 7 inches, then breaking westward about 1 foot 6 inches, and then continued from north to south, in the remaining part of such east side, 25 feet 6 inches, and from east to west, on the north side, 28 feet.” The lessee covenanted to pay the land-tax, and all other charges and assessments, and also to build, before 25th March 1809, good and sufficient buildings, within the meaning of the Building Act, which, in the estimation of some competent surveyor, should be deemed sufficient security for the said annual sum of £20. 10s as a ground rent, and not a rack rent; also to fence the premises, and make party walls, channels, drains, &c.; and deliver

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up the said premises well and sufficiently repaired, leaded, glazed, painted, &c. with all doors, locks, hearths, chimney-pieces, &c., pumps, pipes, posts, &c., that might at any time be fixed, set up, or belong to the said demised premises; and the lessee covenanted not to assign, without licence in writing, and also to insure from fire, and to lay out the sum for which they should be insured, in case the premises should be destroyed or damaged by fire.

The land at Orset is let as follows, in three parcels :—

1.—The message, and about 20 acres of land, let on lease to John Mobbs, of Orset, for 10 years, from 29th September 1820, at £30 a year .....	£.	s.	d.
	30	—	—
2.—The message called the Town-house, in Orset, let on lease to Joseph Binder, for the same period, at the yearly rent of.....	22	—	—
3.—Pie-corner Field, containing about five acres, let on lease to Stephen Robinson, for the same period, at £10 a year.....	10	—	—

The whole rents amount to £82. 10s, one half of which is received for Chadlington, and carried to an account called the Orset estate account,

Of the money so received, half is applied for maintaining a lecture, and the other half for the use of the poor.

As to the former, the minister receives 10s 6d and the clerk 1s 6d for every sermon preached in the afternoon, as far as the money will extend.

The money for the poor is given away in coals. The practice is for the farmers of the parish to fetch coals gratis from the nearest wharf, which is about ten miles distant, and where they cost about 1s 6d per cwt. The coals are sold to the poor at about 2d a hundred less than the cost price. A supply of coals is thus afforded throughout the winter. The accounts are regularly entered, and submitted to a parish meeting at Easter, and signed,

The distribution of the moiety in Orset, and such other particulars as may best be obtained on the spot, must be reserved for our Report of the Charities of that place.

## HAMLETS OF FAWLER, AND FINSTOCK.

### CHURCH HOUSES.

In our account of Gifford's gift to the inhabitants of Charlbury, Fowler, and Finstock, we have stated, that a certain portion of the property demised had been taken by the latter hamlets in severalty as their share, and afterwards exchanged for other property with Mr. Malins.

The following abstract of the deed, whereby the exchange was effected, will best explain the transaction :—

By indenture, dated 26th October 1809, between Robert Pratt, and three others, being all the principal inhabitants of Fawler; and Edward Bolton, and seven others, being all the principal inhabitants of Finstock, of the first part; and George Malins, and a trustee, of the second and third part; reciting, that the inhabitants of Fawler and Finstock were jointly seised of a certain messuage, or tenement, and premises, in the town of Charlbury, and of which they had jointly been in the receipt of the rents from time immemorial, but of which the title deeds could not be found, which premises were then occupied by Widow Knibbs, at £3. 3s a year, and were in a ruinous condition, and not exceeding £100 in value; and reciting, that the said George Malins was seised in fee of three copyhold cottages in Fawler, and another new-erected copyhold cottage in Charlbury, of equal value, or thereabouts; and that the parties had, for their mutual convenience, at a public meeting called for that purpose, agreed to exchange the said properties with each other; the inhabitants of Fawler to take a surrender of the three cottages, valued at £50, and the inhabitants of Finstock to take a surrender of the said newly-erected cottage at Charlbury, and the premises in Charlbury belonging to Fawler and Finstock, to be conveyed to George Malins in fee; It is witnessed, that the said Robert Pratt, and others, granted, bargained, and sold, released, and confirmed, to the said George Malins, in his actual possession, &c., all that messuage, or tenement, and premises, in Church-street, Charlbury, in the occupation of Widow Knibbs; to hold the same to the said George Malins, and his heirs; And it was further witnessed, that the said George Malins covenanted that he would, at the next court, surrender three several cottages in Fawler, to the sole use of the said Robert Pratt, and others, inhabitants of Fawler, in trust, for the use and benefit of all the principal inhabitants of Fawler, and their successors; and further, to surrender to the said Edward Bolton, and others, of Finstock, the said new-erected cottage in Hicksett-wood, in Charlbury, to the sole use of the said Edward Bolton, and others, in trust, for the separate use and benefit of the principal inhabitants of Finstock.

Before the exchange, the rent of the house used to be divided equally between Fawler and Finstock. Since the exchange, the three cottages in Fawler (which were regularly surrendered according to the covenant) have been occupied by three poor families, from whom the overseers with difficulty obtain any rent, the tenants being of the poorest description.

The tenement taken by the hamlet of Finstock, is let to

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## CHARITIES AT FAWLER AND FINSTOCK. 45

William Skerrett, at four guineas a year, which is the full value. This is received by the churchwardens of Finstock.

The churchwardens of Charlbury make a church-rate, which includes the hamlets of Fawler and Finstock. Charlbury contributes half, Fawler and Finstock each a quarter; and the rent which is received from the church houses is paid in aid of such contributions.

Although the produce of this property is considered as applicable to the church-rate, yet we conceive the inhabitants might dispose of it in any other manner, for the good of the hamlets, according to the trusts in the deed of 18th October, 34th Elizabeth, above abstracted. In the returns made to Parliament in 1786, the rent of the house then belonging to these two hamlets is stated to be for the poor.

### HAMLET OF FINSTOCK.

#### ELIZABETH MARTIN'S CHARITY.

*Elizabeth Martin* left £2 a year, charged upon an estate in Finstock, now belonging to Lord Churchill. It is understood, and it is so stated in the returns made to Parliament in 1786, that this was to be given to poor widows; but there is no will or deed in the parish relating to the charity.

The money is regularly paid by Lord Churchill's agent, and is given away the day before Christmas, by the churchwarden and overseer, in sums of 1s, 2s, and 2s 6d. It is given amongst all the poor, whether they receive relief or not.

#### THOMAS MARTIN'S CHARITY.

*Thomas Martin*, by will, dated 11th January 1773, charged his estate at Finstock with the annual sum of 40s, to be given to 20 poor labourers, or their widows, inhabitants of Finstock, that never receive collection, on Saint Thomas the apostle, yearly, to be approved of by the said Thomas Martin, and his heirs, or by those to whom the freehold of the premises should belong.

The estate charged with this payment is now divided, and the rent-charge has been apportioned accordingly. Mrs. Castell is in possession of part, which is charged with the payment of £1. 14s 6d, and William Hands is the owner of the other part, out of which the remaining 5s 6d is payable.

Mrs. Castell gives away, annually, the portion charged upon her estate, to poor labourers of Finstock.

William Hands has not given any money away for two years. Till within the last three or four years, the whole 40s. used to be sent by the owners of the lands charged, to the

churchwarden and overseer, who distributed it amongst the poor of Finstock, generally in shillings and sixpences, giving however, to the widows and widowers, 2s 6d each ; but, since that period, the owners of the estate charged, have taken the distribution upon themselves. Although the donor directed that the persons receiving this charity should be approved of by those who had the freehold of the premises, out of which the payment was made ; still we apprehend that the distribution should be public ; and unless the churchwarden and overseers are consulted, it will be difficult to avoid giving part to those, receiving collection, who are by the donor expressly excluded.

#### NEAL'S CHARITY.

There is about half an acre of land in the open field of Ramsden, which is understood to have been left by *Hannah Neal*, for educating poor children of Finstock.

This land has long been in the possession of William Collins, who paid 6s a year for it till lately, when it was raised to 7s 6d, which is as much as it is worth.

The rent used to be given away with the other money about Christmas, but now it is proposed to add it to the funds of a Sunday school, which has been lately established, and to lay it out in books for the use of the children.

#### HAMLET OF SHORTHAMPTON.

##### CLERK'S AND POOR'S HOUSES.

There are three small tenements in Shorthampton, near the chapel. One is occupied, rent free, by the clerk for the time being ; and the other two by poor families, who are put there by the parish. The houses are kept in repair out of the parish funds.

#### PARISH OF CLAYDON.

##### SCHOOL.

There is no school in Claydon, but the parish possesses the right of sending 15 boys or girls to the school at Farnborough, an adjoining parish, in the county of Warwick, which number is always kept up. The children attend regularly, and are supplied with books.

The parish has also a right of sending three children to Williamscoot school, in Cropredy, as hereafter-mentioned ; but the distance being about three miles and a half, that privilege has not been exercised.

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## POOR'S LAND.

By indenture, dated 20th February 1752, Mary Breere, in consideration of £72, bargained and sold to Anthony Harris, James Knibb, Martin Buswell, and Isaiah Astell, a quarter of a yard land, with the appurtenances, of arable, meadow, and pasture, in the open fields of Claydon; to hold to them, their heirs, and assigns, for ever.

By deed-poll, dated 21st February 1752, reciting the conveyance above abstracted, and that the said money belonged to the poor inhabitants of the parish of Claydon, and was, with the consent of the rest of the inhabitants, laid out in the said purchase; It was declared and agreed, that the said Anthony Harris, and others, were seised of the premises, in trust, to pay the yearly rents to the churchwardens and overseers of the parish of Claydon, to be by them distributed amongst and for the benefit of the poor inhabitants of the said parish.

By indenture, dated 3d November 1803, Martin Buswell bargained, sold, and released, to William Harris the elder, William Harris the younger, John Preedy, and Richard Holloway, all that parcel of ground in Claydon, in a place there called Lawn Hill Quarter, which, upon the inclosure of the common fields, was allotted to William Harris, Martin Buswell, Isaiah Astell, and James Knibb, in lieu of a quarter yard land, which was conveyed to them by Mary Breere, February 1752, to the use of himself, the said Martin Buswell, and the said William Harris, and others, upon the trusts intended to be declared by a deed bearing even date with the present abstracting indenture.

By deed-poll of the same date, the said Martin Buswell, William Harris, and others, reciting the above deed, declared and agreed, that they held the premises in trust, to pay the rents to the churchwardens and overseers, to be by them distributed for the benefit of the poor inhabitants of Claydon: And it was further agreed, that the said trustees would appoint a time and place for meeting, and would choose one of their number to receive the rents, who should have the custody of the writings, and would observe the directions of the rest of the trustees, and render an account to them of his receipts and payments, and that in case any of the trustees should die, the survivors should appoint new trustees, as often as a vacancy should occur.

The land in Claydon, consisting of about six acres and a half, was let to James Sabin, of Wardington, for seven years, from St. Thomas's-day 1819, at the yearly rent of £18, which is the full value.



This rent, together with the sum of £2. 10s, the rent of a cottage belonging to the parish, is laid out in the purchase of coals, which are given to all the poor of Claydon, a certain quantity being delivered at each house, according to the number in family.

## PARISH OF CROPREDY.

### CALCOTT'S SCHOOL.

By indenture, bearing date 20th January 1706, between John French, son and heir of John French, who was son and heir of Thomas French, who was son and heir of Roger French, of the one part; and Thomas Woodhull, esq. and six others, of the other part; reciting, that by indenture enrolled in Chancery, bearing date 14th August, 17 Elizabeth, made between *Walter Calcott*, of Williamscot, merchant of the staple, of the one part, and Richard Fox, the said Roger French, and six others, of the other part (in which it was recited, that the said Walter Calcott had, upon great trust reposed in the said trustees, by indenture, bearing date the 12th of the then instant, August, granted to them an annuity of £13 to be yearly, after his death, issuing out of the manor of Williamscot, and of all his messuages, lands, &c. in Williamscot, or elsewhere in England), the said Walter Calcott declared, that the said trustees, and the survivor of them, their heirs, and assigns, should yearly receive the said annuity, not to their own use, but should therewith content and pay such honest, discreet, and learned man, as should, for the time being, be schoolmaster of the grammar school, then newly erected by the said Walter Calcott in Williamscot; and that when six of the trustees should die, the survivor and his heirs should convey the said annuity to other substantial and honest persons, upon the like trusts; and reciting, that the said Roger French survived his co-trustees; the said John French, party thereto, granted and confirmed to the said Thomas Woodhull and others, and their heirs, the said rent-charge, upon the before-mentioned trusts.

There is no trace of any subsequent renewal of this trust.

By certain orders and rules made by the founder of this school, which he charged his heirs to see observed, upon the penalty in his deed of entail, and also in his will prescribed (a copy of which orders is still in existence, though in a mutilated state), he directed, amongst other minor regulations for the management of the school, that the scholars to be

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taught in it should be eight years of age, and that none should tarry there above 18 years of age; that they should consist of—

All the children of the lord of the manor house of Williamscoth,	} to be chosen by lot;
Six scholars of the lord's naming,	
Six of Williamscoth,	
Eight of Wardington and Coton,	
Six of Cropredy,	
Seven of both Bourtons,	
Four of Mollington,	
Three of Claydon,	

that if there should not be so many found in each place, they should be taken from those places where there were more to be found than the limited number, and that if there was not a sufficient number in the whole peculiar,\* as many as were wanting should be taken from the next towns adjoining the school-house; that the children of persons within the said peculiar who might dispend £5 of yearly freehold, should be excepted from the right of drawing the lots, but that their children might be admitted to the school on paying a reasonable stipend to the master, and that the master might take four scholars where he would for his advantage, with the consent of the said Walter Calcott, and his heirs, provided that he should at no time take more scholars than he could well teach: And he gave to the master, from time to time, his lodging rooms, and the backside and ground to it appointed, so long as any master should teach children there, the said master repairing the said lodgings, and ground, and the mounds thereof, and the said founder's heirs keeping and maintaining the said school-house for ever: And he directed, that the master should not cut down any trees on the ground he had with his lodgings, without the consent of the founder or his heirs; that the founder or his heirs, should have the power of dismissing the master and appointing another, and that if the boys were not ready to enter into grammar, they should be occupied in writing, until they were ready for the grammar.

This establishment has long ceased to be a grammar school.

The school-house erected by Walter Calcott, is situate in that part of the hamlet of Williamscoth which is in the parish of Cropredy. It consists of a school-room, and a house for the schoolmaster, with a garden adjoining. The buildings are in good repair; the whole of them have been usually repaired at the expense of the owners, for the time being, of the manor house of Williamscoth, and the estate thereunto belonging,

\* The Peculiar of Cropredy contain all the above-mentioned places.

now the property of Mrs. Loveday, and the schoolmasters and all the scholars have for many years been appointed by them.

Mrs. Loveday pays the annuity of £13 to the schoolmaster, who in respect thereof teaches 40 children from Williamscoth, Wardington, (including Coton), Cropredy, and Mollington. There are at present no scholars from Claydon, or from the two Bourtons, in consequence of there being no applications from those places; but the total number is kept full, the deficiencies being filled up from the other places. The boys are taught reading, writing and arithmetic, on the Madras system, together with two boys, taught in respect of Ditchfield's gift, and other children, for whose instruction the master is paid by their parents. The boys on the foundation are admitted at six, and usually remain till they are about ten years of age.

#### DITCHFIELD'S GIFT.

*John Ditchfield*, by will, bearing date 24th March 1708, gave all his messuages, lands, &c. in Williamscoth, in the parish of Cropredy, and elsewhere in the county of Oxon, to his wife for life; and after her decease, to his sister, Elizabeth Knight, and her heirs, upon condition, that the said Elizabeth Knight, and her heirs, and all persons to whom the said lands should come, should, after the death of his wife, out of the same, pay yearly to the minister and churchwardens of the said parish of Cropredy, and their successors, for ever, a yearly rent-charge of 40s. to be employed for the instructing of such two of the poor inhabitants of Williamscoth as the minister of Cropredy for the time being, should make choice of.

This annuity of 40s is paid out of a farm in Williamscoth, partly in Cropredy, and partly in Wardington, the property of John Loveday, esq. to the master of Calcott's school, before mentioned, who, in respect thereof, instructs two boys, appointed by the minister of Cropredy for the time being.

#### CALCOTT'S GIFT.

The said *Walter Calcott* (as appears from a decree of commissioners of charitable uses, dated 1706), by his will, bearing date 10th November 1574, gave to be distributed to the poor of the towns of Hook-Norton and Cropredy, 5s a piece, yearly, to be paid at two sermons, which he, by his said will directed to be preached at the said towns, and thereby charged the same to be paid by his heirs of his manor of Williamscoth.

An annual sermon is preached at Cropredy on Whit-Tuesday, for which 10s is paid to the minister by Mrs. Loveday, after which 5s also paid by her, is distributed in small

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amongst the poor of that parish, by the parish clerk.

Similar annual payments of 10s and 5s made by Mrs. Loveday to Hook-Norton, will be mentioned hereafter.

#### JOYCE HALL'S CHARITY.

By indenture, dated 6th June 1653, Thomas Swayne, in consideration of £80, conveyed to Ambrose Holbech the elder, and Ambrose Holbech the younger, to the use of them and their heirs, a messuage, or tenement, with the appurtenances, in Northend, in the county of Warwick, and a close adjoining thereto, and six lands or sellions of ground in the common and open fields in Northend and Knightcot, and also common of pasture for one bullock or cow, to the said messuage belonging.

By indenture of lease and release, dated 19th and 20th November 1810, between Thomas Penn, John Ayris, Dyer Jones, and Thomas Andrews, of the first part, and the Rev. Ralph Churton, rector of Middleton Cheney, and the Rev. Samuel Penn, and three others, of the third part, two being of Middleton Cheney, and two of Cropredy; reciting the indenture above abstracted, and reciting further, that the said messuage and close of ground were purchased, in trust, for the use and benefit of *Joyce Hall*, of Mollington, and with her money, and to be disposed of as she should direct; and reciting, that the said Joyce Hall, by will, dated 6th January 1657, gave half the rent of the premises, yearly, to the poor people of the parish of Middleton Cheney, and the other half to the poor people of the town of Cropredy, to be divided amongst them in such sort as the parson of Middleton, and vicar of Cropredy should think fit; and directed that the said Ambrose Holbech the elder, and Ambrose Holbech the younger, should convey the premises to such feoffees as they, with the said parson and vicar, for the time being, should think fit; that the rent might be for ever employed and paid to the poor people aforesaid; and reciting, that the open and common fields of Knightcot and Northend had been inclosed, and that, in lieu of the said six lands and common, the commissioners had awarded an allotment of 2A. 1R. 3P.; and that the said messuage, or tenement, and premises, were then legally vested in the parties of the first part, the only surviving feoffees in trust; it is witnessed, that they, with the consent and approbation of the said Ralph Churton, and \_\_\_\_\_ granted, to the said Samuel Penn, and others, of the third part, their heirs, and assigns, the said messuage, or tenement, in Northend, and also a little cottage, containing

one bay of building, adjoining to the said messuage, and also the close adjoining the said messuage, and also the allotment containing 2A. 1R. 3P. ; to hold the same to the said parties of the third part, to the use of themselves, and the parties of the first part, their heirs and assigns, upon trust, as before expressed ; and upon further trust, that when four of the said trustees should be dead, the survivors should make a new conveyance of the premises to four other inhabitants, such as the parson of Middleton and vicar of Cropredy should think fit, upon the same trusts.

This property consists of two cottages, and a little orchard adjoining, and the allotment in Northend, in the parish of Burton Dasset (Warwickshire), made on the inclosure. The whole is let to John Cox, on lease for 14 years from 10th October 1820, at the rent of £12, the tenant paying the land-tax, and covenanting to keep the premises in repair, and to plant two trees every year.

This is the full value, and last year £1 was returned to the tenant.

The rent is equally divided, about 10s being first deducted for insurance. One half is sent to be disposed of in Middleton Cheney, in Northamptonshire, and the other half is distributed soon after Christmas, amongst the poor of Cropredy, according to a list made out by the trustees, in sums of 1s 6d and 1s. It is given to all the poor, without distinction.

#### TOWN STOCK.

There is a sum of £40 in the hands of Mr. *William Eagles*, the origin of which is not known, but it is supposed to have been some surplus money at the time of the inclosure. The father of Mr. Eagles had it, and used to pay 40s interest, which he distributed every fourth year amongst the poor of Cropredy, giving £8 at once. Since Mr. William Eagles succeeded to his father's property, about 20 years ago, he has held himself responsible for the same sum, and has distributed it latterly every second year, and proposes to continue to do so in future. He generally gives 1s to each poor person.

#### BELL LAND.

By indenture, dated 26th August, 4th Henry 8, it is witnessed, that *Roger Lupton*, vicar of Cropredy, had delivered, in money, to Thomas Colyar, and three others, churchwardens of Cropredy and Bourton, £6. 13s 4d, for which they covenanted, for them and their successors, to find, at their own costs, some person to keep duly the clock of Cro-

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predy, and to ring daily, both winter and summer, the curfew, and day bell.

By deed, dated 3d October, 5th Henry 8, the said Roger Lupton and Richard Skipwith, conveyed to Thomas French, and 24 others, of Cropredy, two tenements, at Wardington, and two crofts belonging thereto, and a quarter of a yard land, to hold the same to them, their heirs, and assigns, for ever.

By deed poll, dated 1st October 1614, Thomas French, and others, described as the surviving feoffees of certain tenements, and cow commons in Cropredy, conveyed the same to Robert Robins, and others, upon trust, to re-ensfeoff such persons as they should be required to do, either by the vicar or churchwardens of Cropredy and Bourton, to the end that the same might continue for the purposes for which they were given, viz for the repair of the parish church, and the clock there, and the ringing the curfew and day bell, as they had theretofore been employed.

In a deed poll, dated 7th June 1673, and an indenture, dated 1st October 1706, the trusts are declared to be for the repairing of the parish church, and clock, and ringing the curfew and day bell.

By indenture, dated 5th July 1791, John Eagles, and two others, surviving feoffees for the repairing the parish church, the clock of Cropredy, and ringing the curfew, and day bell there, conveyed to the use of John Chamberlayne, and 19 others, their heirs and assigns, a parcel of ground, with the appurtenances, in the fields and liberties of Wardington; and Williamscot, and Coton; to hold the same, with their appurtenances, to the said John Chamberlayne, and others, their heirs and assigns, upon trust, to let the same, and out of the rents to procure a person to keep duly the church clock of Cropredy, and to ring the curfew and day bell there, at the times therein mentioned.

The property belonging to this charity consists of a close in Wardington, called the Bell Land, containing 14 acres. It is let on lease, dated 1st May 1823, to Thomas Sabin, for seven years, from the Lady-day preceding, at £32 a year. It was let by auction, and this was the highest rent that could be obtained.

Of this rent one moiety is carried to the account of the churchwarden of Cropredy, and the other to the account of the churchwarden of Great and Little Bourton.

The sum of £4. 10s is paid to a person for ringing the bell and winding up the clock at Cropredy, in equal proportions by each place, and all the other expenses, usually defrayed by a church rate, are paid by each place out of their respective moieties.

## HAMLET OF GREAT AND LITTLE BOURTON.

### SCHOOL.

It appears from the recitals in the indenture of 6th July 1812, hereafter mentioned, that *Thomas Gill*, of Woolscott, by will, dated 13th April 1666, devised his real estate to Sir Thomas Trevor, Sir Edward Broughton, and 12 others, and their heirs, in trust, for the payment of his debts, and afterwards for building a free school, or hospital for children, whose parents had not above £40 a year, or a personal estate equal, and authorized any five of his trustees to dispose of his estate.

By a decree in Chancery, dated 1st December 1669, in a cause in which Sir Thomas Trevor, and Charles Wheeler, two of the trustees, were plaintiffs, and Sir William Bromley, and the other trustees defendants, it was ordered, that the land should be sold, and after payment of the debts, the remainder should be applied for the charitable use in the said will mentioned.

In pursuance of this decree, the trustees sold the testator's real estate, except a fee-farm rent of £20 issuing out of the manor of Shillington, in the county of Bedford, and other lands charged therewith, which was reserved for the charity, and which by indenture, enrolled in the court of Chancery, and dated 2d January 1682, was granted by Henry Seymour, and Richard Granville, to the use of Sir Charles Wheeler, and others.

The debts of the testator, Thomas Gill, having been paid out of the money raised by the sale of his other estates, the residue was laid out in the purchase of a fee-farm rent of £9, issuing out of the rectory of Newbold, in Warwickshire, for the use of the said Charity, which, by indenture, dated 20th December 1684, enrolled in chancery, was in consideration of £172 conveyed to the use of Ambrose Holbech, and Thomas Woodhull, in trust for the charity.

By another decree in the court of Chancery, dated 16th April, 5th Anne, in a cause of the attorney-general against Parkhurst, and others, it was ordered, that the trusts in the will of the said Thomas Gill should be performed, and that the defendants, John Parkhurst, and others, should convey their interest in the trust estates, to Thomas Woodhull, and others therein named; and that the rents in arrear and the current rents should be paid to them, to see the same applied in repairing the school-house, in Great Bourton, where the school was kept, and in paying the rent thereof, and making a suitable allowance to such schoolmaster as the said trustees should

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approve of; and that the heir male of the family of the donor should be always one of the trustees; and that whenever the number of the trustees should be reduced to three, the survivors should appoint four others.

By indenture, dated 6th July 1812, between William Holbech, and the Rev. Richard Nicol, of the one part, and Thomas Carter, William Holbech the younger, John Loveday, the Rev. John Ballard, and John Gill, of the other part; reciting the several particulars above-mentioned; it is witnessed, that the said William Holbech, and Richard Nicol conveyed to the use of themselves, and of the said Thomas Carter, and others, and John Gill (the latter being the heir at law of the testator, Thomas Gill), their heirs and assigns, the two fee-farm rents of £20 and of £9 upon the trusts expressed in the said decree of the 16th April, 5th Anne.

By the last-mentioned decree, as it appeared to the court, that the town of Great Bourton was the birth place, and usual residence of Thomas Gill; and that a certain chapel in Great Bourton had been for several years used as a convenient place for the free school; it was ordered, that the trustees should apply the several fee-farm rents of £20 and £9 for the use of the free school, in paying the rent, and repairing the school-house, and making a suitable allowance to the master.

The premises used by the trustees for the purposes of a school, were obtained by them in 1709, and are held for the remainder of a term of 1,000 years, as will appear by the following abstract:—

By indenture, dated 1st March 1709, between Bronker Watts, and two others, described as surviving feoffees and trustees of the chapel of All Saints, in the town of Great Bourton, of the one part, and William Holbech, and five others, described as surviving trustees of the charity, given by the last will and testament of Thomas Gill, for the maintaining a free school, of the other part; it was witnessed, that in pursuance of the said decree, the said Bronker Watts and others, demised unto the said William Holbech, and others, all that chapel commonly called the chapel of All Saints, in Great Bourton, and the site thereof, with the appurtenances thereto belonging; to hold the same from Lady-day then next for 1,000 years, to the intent that the said chapel should be used as a free school for the town of Great Bourton, during the term aforesaid, at the yearly rent of £4, payable half-yearly; and it was declared that the said chapel or school-house should be, during the said term, repaired out of the said annuity of £9, by the trustees of the said charity, and that,



from time to time, as often as the public business of the town of Great Bourton should require; the officers and inhabitants to meet together; the schoolmaster, having a day's notice, should permit them to ring the bell of the said chapel, to call the inhabitants together, to meet there for the dispatch of public business; with a proviso, that if the rent should be behind for 40 days, the trustees should have the power of re-entry.

The ancient chapel, so demised, was conveyed to trustees, 3d Edward 6th; and it has been, from time to time, re-conveyed to new trustees. By the last trust deed, dated in 1797, the premises were declared to be held in trust, "to the intent and purpose that the said chapel and premises, and the rents thereof, should be employed, used, and converted, to the use, benefit, and behoof, of the whole inhabitants of Great Bourton, for and towards relieving the poor, for the payment of taxes which should become due for the town of Great Bourton, or such other like uses, as to the inhabitants and townsmen of Great Bourton, should seem meet and convenient."

The two rent-charges above-mentioned, form the whole income of the school.

The rent-charge of £20, issuing out of the manor of Shitlington, is paid by Mr. Eames of Silsoe, and remitted to Mr. Golby, of Banbury (who acts as treasurer to the trustees), when applied for. The sum of £4 is deducted for land-tax, and 5s for the trouble of collecting, leaving only 15 guineas clear. There were four years' rent charge due at Michaelmas 1823, for which application was intended to be made immediately.

The other rent-charge is paid out of an estate in Newbold, belonging to Lady Leigh. It is transmitted to Mr. Golby, regularly, 36s being deducted for land-tax.

The net receipt from both rent-charges is therefore only £22. 19s. From this rent the sum of £15 is paid to a schoolmaster, who resides in the school-house, to which there is a good garden attached.

The school is free to all the boys of the inhabitants of Great Bourton, of the description mentioned in the will. There are between 30 and 40 free scholars in the school, and the master takes pay scholars from other places, and also from parents of Great Bourton having property.

The school-house is in very good repair, but no rent has been paid for it by the trustees since May 1806.

About that time one of the trustees of the chapel gave notice to the treasurer of the school trustees not to pay the yearly

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## CHARITIES AT GREAT & LITTLE BOURTON. 57

rent of ~~£4~~ without his concurrence, on account of some difference of opinion that had existed amongst the trustees as to the disposal of it.

In 1812, the school-house and premises were in a dilapidated state. A meeting of the inhabitants was called, and it was proposed, and at length agreed, that the rent of the school-house then unpaid should be appropriated to the repairs of the school. It was laid out accordingly, and the premises put into good repair. The sum of £33. 2s. 10d. was paid in December 1813, by the school trustees on this account, and they have since paid several smaller sums on account of repairs.

On balancing the accounts at the end of the year 1823, there was due to the treasurer about £40; but the four years' rent charge then due would cover this deficiency, and leave about £20 in hand.

There are, however, several years' rent still due to the chapel trustees, and it is proposed to call a meeting of the inhabitants, for the purpose of ascertaining what is due, and whether any or what part shall be claimed of the trustees of the school.

It appears, however, to us, that any arrears that may be found due cannot be more beneficially applied for the inhabitants at large, than in remitting them to the school, the funds of which will be much injured if the trustees are obliged to pay a large sum at once.

### BELL LAND.

A moiety of the rent of the Bell Land, the particulars of which have just been given, is paid to Great Bourton, and is carried to the churchwardens' account, as before stated.

### CHAMBERS'S GIFT.

From the above fund is paid 18s. annually to the poor of Bourton, by the name of Chambers's money, the origin of which is unknown. In the returns made to Parliament in 1786, it is stated, that Mr. Chambers gave £20 to the poor of Great and Little Bourton, then in the hands of the churchwardens, and producing 18s. yearly, but no date is given.

It is supposed that this sum of £20 was laid out upon the Bell Land, and the sum of 9s. the moiety of the interest of 18s. is paid yearly by the churchwardens of Cropredy, to the churchwardens of Bourton, and carried to the same account as the rent of the Bell Land.

That sum is given away by the churchwardens, amongst poor widows, but not regularly every year. In 1818, the sum of £2. 14s. being for three years, was distributed together;

and in 1822, the sum of £3. 12s. for four years preceding. This appears to be the last distribution.

### CHAPELRY OF WARDINGTON, AND HAMLETS OF WILLIAMSCOT AND COTON.

#### CHARITIES OF DENTON AND OTHERS.

*Constance Denton*, of Bath, by will, dated 14th February 1770, gave and bequeathed to the poor of the parish of Wardington, and of the villages or hamlets of Williamscot and Coton, within the same parish, the sum of £100; she also gave and bequeathed to the poor of the parish of Bishop's Itchington, in the county of Warwick, the sum of £100; which two legacies she directed to be paid to the respective ministers of the said parishes, to be put out at interest or otherwise, for the benefit of the poor of the said parishes, in such manner as the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor, of the said parishes respectively for the time being should direct, but so as not to stop or save the alms given by the parish to any pauper.

In the returns made to Parliament in 1786, it is stated, that *William Healy*, by will, in 1703, left to the poor of Williamscot, Wardington, and Coton, £92. 12s, which, with the £100 left by *Mrs. Denton* for the same purpose, and a sum given by the proprietors of land in these places for the same use, was in the three per cent reduced annuities, in the name of *Charles Watkins*, producing £7. 10s yearly.

From some papers produced to us, it appeared, that in December 1773, there was in the hands of *Mr. Watkins*, then a banker of Daventry, the sum of £225. 13s 10d derived from the sources above referred to, of which he laid out the sum of £217. 10s in the purchase of £250 reduced annuities, in his own name.

The remainder £8. 3s 10d, together with £3 more for interest, appears, by a letter from *Mr. Watkins*, to have been forwarded to the then minister, *Mr. Hopkins*, for distribution. To the stock receipt there is annexed a paper, signed by *Mr. Watkins*, acknowledging that the stock so purchased in his name was the sole property of the poor of Wardington, Williamscot, and Coton, and that the interest was to be distributed by the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers.

A few years ago this stock was sold out, and the produce, £138. 15s, was applied, together with other money raised by the inhabitants, in the purchase of land, and building cottages thereon, for the use of the poor; and it was agreed that the same sum of £7. 10s, which was the amount of the divi-

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dends, should be paid annually for the money so taken and applied. The sum of £15 is paid out of the poor's rate every second year, and distributed to the poor in money, 1s to every man and his wife, and 3d or 4d a head for each child.

## HAMLET OF WARDINGTON.

### CHAUNCEY'S GIFT.

The sum of £20 was left by the late Mr. *Chauncey*, to be laid out annually in coals, to be sold to the poor at the wharf price. Coals to the amount of four times this sum are purchased by the overseers out of the poor's rate every year, and sold to the poor at cost price, without charging any thing for the carriage, or the loss occasioned by waste. It is probable that this distribution originated in consequence of the overseers having received the legacy above-mentioned.

### TURNER'S GIFT.

*Robert Turner*, of Williamscot, by will, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 28th January 1807, gave all his personal estate to Thomas Wilson and Richard Andrews, in trust, thereout amongst other things to pay, within six months after his decease, to the overseers of the poor of the parish of Wardington, the sum of £10, to be laid out in the purchase of coals, to be sold to the poor of the said parish of Wardington, yearly, during the winter, at the same price as they cost at the wharf at which they might be purchased, free from the expense of the carriage of the same, if any charitable person or persons would perform such carriage. The money arising by the sale of the said coals from time to time to be paid by the overseers for the time being to their successors, to be by them applied in like manner, until, by any unforeseen circumstances, the same should be wholly expended, lost by bad debts, or in any other way reduced to nothing.

It is stated, that the effects of the testator were insufficient for the payment of his debts and legacies, and that the legatees therefore agreed to take 14s in the pound. The amount, after this deduction, was paid to the overseers' account, and it is considered that the interest of this money supplies in part the loss occasioned by the distribution of coals, mentioned in the preceding charity.

**HAMLET OF WILLIAMSCOT.**

**DONOR UNKNOWN.**

The sum of £1 is paid annually by Mr. Brewerton, of North Aston, as being charged upon a farm belonging to him in Williamscoth, called Fearn Hill. It is doubtful whether this payment arises from any charitable donation.

It is called stone picking money, and is given at the rate of 4d per head to all the women and children of Williamscoth, as far as it will go.

**PARISH OF SWALCLIFFE.**

**REVEREND JOHN LOGGIN'S CHARITY.**

The Rev. John Loggin, of Swalcliffe, rector of Long Marston, by will, dated 20th November 1726, gave unto the poor, in charitable uses for them, to be laid out and distributed in bread on Sundays, for such as came to church, for setting out apprentices, clothing the indigent, or otherwise, as his executors should think meet, the sum of £200 for the poor of Swalcliffe, Sibfords (Sibford Ferris and Sibford Gower), Burdrop, Clifford Chambers, Quinton, and Long Marston,\* or any other place where the testator should have any thing at his decease, the use money of the said £200 to be distributed yearly, until the principal should be settled for that purpose, and always to be disposed of after the decease of his executors by a Loggin, so long as a Loggin should bear name in Swalcliffe, or any other place named, for the disposing of the money for the poor. The testator made his wife Ann Loggin sole executrix, and gave to her all his personal estate undisposed of; but in case of her death, he gave all his estate real and personal, to his sons and daughters, five in number, and appointed them executors.

By indentures of lease and release, as recited in the following deed, from which this abstract is taken, dated 1st and 2d March 1749, William Coles, and Mary his wife, in consideration of £220, conveyed to William Loggin, and others, executors of the said John Loggin, their heirs, and assigns, a yard land, in Sibford Ferris; to hold the same upon the trusts directed by the will of the said John Loggin, touching the application of the said £200 charity money; and it was provided, that as soon as the trustees should be reduced to three, they should choose so many other persons of the com-

\* These three last places are in Gloucestershire.

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reunion of the church of England, and who should frequently, if not constantly, attend the service (preference being always had to the nearest of kin to the said John Loggin, and of his surname, if it could be), to be trustees, together with the survivors, so as to make up six or seven at the most, to whom the premises should be conveyed, upon the trusts aforesaid.

By an act of Parliament, passed in 1789, for inclosing the common fields of Sibford Ferris, the commissioners allotted, in lieu of the said one yard land and commons, two several plots of ground, one containing 14A. 1A. 8P. in a part of the field called the Measuring Yards, and another plot containing 5A. 3A. 15P.

By indenture, dated 20th December 1813, between George Loggin, of Williamscol, son and heir at law of John Loggin, of the one part, and the Rev. William Loggin, of Long Marston, Henry Loggin, the Rev. John Stephens, William Walford, Edward Dix, John Garks, and Michael Oshat, of the other part; relating to the will of John Loggin, the indentures of 1st and 2d March 1749, and the inclosure Act, as above abstracted, it is witnessed, that the said George Loggin conveyed to the said William Loggin, and others, their heirs, and assigns, the said two plots of ground, upon the trusts before mentioned.

Both these allotments are occupied by William Gardner, as yearly tenant; the rent of £40 a year was agreed upon originally, but in each of the last two years the sum of £8. 16s 6d has been remitted, which, together with 17s 3d land-tax, and 6s 3d quit-rent, making together £10, being deducted, there remains only £30 a year clear rent.

Before 1813, the accounts had been in great confusion; in that year new trustees were appointed, and since that time the charity has been regularly administered.

There was, in 1813, a debt of upwards of £80 due on mortgage, being the remainder of money borrowed at the time of the inclosure, with a long accumulation of interest. This was paid off with the first rents received, and on the 22d February 1817, the money then in hand was divided amongst the different parishes mentioned in the donor's will, one seventh; viz. £19. 15s being paid to each.

In 1819, each parish received £11. 2s; in 1821, £10. 6s 3d; in 1823, (being for two years), £9. 10s 4½d; in 1824, £3. 13s 7d.

The four shares payable to Swalcliffe, the two Sibford, and Burdrup, are carried to one account, and are given away in clothing, bread, or money.

The vicar used to attend to the distribution; but having

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lately ceased to reside, he has left that duty to one of the parishioners.

Besides what was given in bread, and money, and clothing, the sum of £10 was added last year to the overseers book, towards putting out poor boys apprentice. One boy was bound out with a premium of £15, and another with a premium of £13. The remainder, beyond the sum of £10 was paid out of the rates.

### WILLIAM LOGGIN'S CHARITY.

The returns made to Parliament in 1786, state that *William Loggin*, by will, in 1635, left to the poor of Swalcliffe, a rent-charge of £2. We cannot obtain any better account.

The sum of £2 is received annually about Easter, from Mr. Horniblow, of Shipston-upon-Stour, as being charged upon the rectory of Batington, near Stratford-upon-Avon.

This amount is added to the rent of a close, allotted to the poor in lieu of a right of cutting furze, and the whole is given away, in money, amongst all the poor, without distinction, in different sums, according to their families.

## TOWNSHIP OF EPWELL.

### CHAPEL LAND.

At the time of the inclosure, about 1773, a piece of land, containing 4A. 2R. 3P. was set out for the repairs of the chapel.

This land is now let at £6. 10s a year, for the term which will expire at Lady-day, 1825. This is a high price. The rent is carried to the churchwardens' account.

## TOWNSHIP OF SIBFORD FERRIS.

### HARRIS'S CHARITY.

In the returns made to Parliament in 1786, it is stated, that *William Harris* gave to the poor of Swalcliffe £5, then vested in Joseph Harris, and producing 5s yearly interest.

There is an entry in the old churchwardens' book for 1725: "Received of Joseph Harris, the sum of 5s, interest money, given by his uncle, Joseph Harris, for the poor of Sibford Ferris." A similar entry is made up to the year 1793, to which time the interest was paid, when Joseph Harris, who had before paid it, discontinued the payment; he is since dead, and his son, Joseph Harris, has agreed to resume the payment of 5s annually, from this time, and to sign an acknowledgment of his liability, in the churchwardens' book.

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# TOWNSHIP OF SIBFORD GOWER.

## TOWN ESTATE.

It appears, from the recitals, in the following indenture, that certain lands therein particularly described, all lying in Sibford Gower, containing, by estimation, seven yard lands and a half, and half a quarter, were formerly given to the use of the inhabitants of Sibford Gower; and that, by a commission of charitable uses, and a decree made thereon, it was ordered, that the said lands should be settled to the following uses, namely; one third of the rents thereof to be employed for the relief and maintenance of the poor of Sibford Gower; a second third part to be bestowed for the maintenance of the school and schoolmaster of Sibford Gower; and the last third part to be employed at the discretion of the inhabitants, to such charitable and pious uses as they should think most convenient.

The open fields in Sibford Gower were inclosed in the year 1774, and the commissioners awarded unto the feoffees of the town lands, in lieu of their said seven yards and a half and common right, two several allotments, the one containing, by statute measure, 1A. 5P. and one other plot, containing, by statute measure, 206A. and 34P. including all roads passing through the said two allotments.

By indentures of lease and release, dated 2d and 3d February 1792, reciting the several particulars above-mentioned, Thomas Gilkes, and two others, conveyed to William Walford, and 11 others, of Burdrup, Epwell, and Sibford Gower, nine messuages, or tenements, in Sibford Gower, and also a house in Sibford Gower, called the school-house; also a messuage in Burdrup, in the occupation of Grace Young; also the said two plots of 1A. & 5P. and 206A. & 34P. allotted as aforesaid; also a plot of ground, containing 4A. 2R. 3P. which, upon the said inclosure was exchanged with John Colgrave, in lieu of a close called Berry Pool Close; also a plot of ground, containing 3A. 2R. 4P.; also a plot containing 3A. 1R. 10P.; also a plot containing 2R. 9P.; also a plot containing 1A. & 39P.; and another plot, containing 1A. 1R. 34P.; which said plots were then laid out in separate closes, in the occupation of John Strong and others; to hold the same to the said William Walford and others, their heirs, and assigns, in trust, for the purposes before-mentioned.

The property consists of nine messuages, one of which is in Burdrup, and the rest in Sibford Gower. One of the houses in Sibford Gower was purchased within these last three or four years, for the sum of £80, to supply the place of one of the



old houses which had fallen into decay; and is used as a residence for the schoolmaster, being at no great distance from the old parish school. The other houses are occupied by poor persons placed in them by the overseers, with the consent of the feoffees, for the convenience of the parish. The feoffees receive no rent for these houses, which are worth about £2 a year each. It appears, however, that in case any person living in any one of these houses receives part of his pay for weekly labour from the poor's book, the sum of 9d weekly is stopped from such allowance, as payment of the rent for the house which he so occupies. All the poor in Sibford Gower are paid part of their weekly wages in this manner from the poor's book, which mode was adopted in order to secure to the landlords the payment of their rents, and was done with the sanction of the magistrates. Where the cottagers occupy houses belonging to individuals, the sum so stopped by the overseer is paid over to the landlord, in part payment of his rent; but in the case of cottages belonging to the feoffees, the rent so stopped has not been paid over to any one, and therefore sinks into the rate for the good of the parish, in the same manner as if they were poor-houses belonging to the overseers.

The plot of 1A. & 5P. surrounds the school, and is enjoyed by the schoolmaster rent free; part being used as a garden, part as a close, and a small portion as a play-ground. This used to let for £2 a year.

The rest of the land is now divided into two farms.

One of them, which is called Stittlewell farm, consisting of about 95 acres, is let on lease, dated 10th September 1818, to John Gilkes, for 10 years, from the 11th October then next ensuing, at the yearly rent of £100.

The other, called the Heath farm, is let to William Savage, by indenture of the same date, and for the same term, by the description of a messuage, tenement, or farmhouse, with the out-buildings, yard, garden, and appurtenances, and six closes, containing 118 acres, at £95 a year.

An advertisement was inserted in the Oxford paper, giving notice that the charity land was to be let by auction. At the day appointed it was put up; and as no one bid what the feoffees thought sufficient, it was kept in hand by a reserved bidding. Several persons afterwards applied for it, but did not offer what the trustees thought sufficient. Mr. Gilkes, one of the trustees, then agreed to take part of the land, at a rent to be fixed by Mr. Dix and Mr. Hawkins, two farmers in the parish, and Mr. Savage agreed to take the other part upon the same terms. The rent now paid for the two farms is £5 more than was offered at the auction.

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As some dissatisfaction was expressed with respect to the letting these farms, we thought it right to employ a surveyor, unconnected with the parties, to make a valuation of them; and from his valuation, it appears that the farm occupied by Gilkes is let at its full value, but that the farm occupied by Savage might bear an increase of about £10 a year.

At the time of the inclosure, in the year 1774, a sum of money was borrowed for paying the expenses, of which there remains £414. 9s 9d due to Edward Dix. This sum is secured by a mortgage of the charity estate; and £20. 14s 5d is paid yearly as the interest. There is also the sum of £50 owing, being the remainder of a sum of £80, which was borrowed to enable the trustees to purchase the house occupied by the schoolmaster. Of this, £10 is paid off yearly, but nothing is set apart for the payment of the debt due on mortgage.

The general outgoings are as follow :—

	£.	s.	d.
Interest on £414. 9s 9d.....	20	14	5.
For paying off the debt of £50.....	10	—	—
Interest on the same (at present).....	2	10	—
Land-tax .....	4	—	—
Meeting of the feoffees (at which the tenants and tradesmen attend, and the bills are paid).....	2	—	—

To the payments above-mentioned are to be added the expenses of repairs.

On the 1st January 1824 (when the account was last settled), the outgoings for the preceding year, including the bills for repairs, amounted to £57. 4s 7½d, which, deducted from the rent of £135, left £77. 15s 4½d to be divided, being £25. 18s 5½d for each third; and in the years 1822 and 1823, the surplus was, within a few pounds, the same.

Of the third part, applicable to the school, the schoolmaster receives the whole, and as much more out of the portion paid to the overseer as makes up £30; the agreement with him having been to receive £30 a year, and as much more as a clear third of the rent should amount to.

For this sum, the master takes all the children, boys and girls, of Sibford Gower and Burdrup, between the ages of five and eleven. The boys are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic; and the girls knitting and sewing, in addition, by his wife. The children are taught free, but they provide their own books and writing materials. There were, at the time of our enquiry, 59 free children in the school.

The second third is paid to the overseer, and forms part of the funds collected for the poor's rate, subject, at present, to a deduction, to make up the schoolmaster's salary of £30.

The third part, which is applicable to charitable uses, is given to the poor of Sibford Gower and Burdrup, partly to

persons not receiving relief, in sums varying from 1s to 20s, or sometimes 30s, and partly to the weekly pensioners, for wine, &c. when ill. A list is made out for the feoffees, at their meeting, on the 1st of January, of the persons not receiving relief, to which they affix such sums as they think proper; and the next day the distribution is made by one or two feoffees, generally with the assistance of the overseer. The sum given away 2d January 1824 was £20. 15s 1d; and £11. 5s 7d was given to poor sick persons in the course of the preceding year. In January 1825, £27. 7s 7d was given away; and in January 1822, £18. 12s 3d.

There are only three trustees now living, viz. Mr. John Gilkes, Mr. Colgrave, and Mr. Davis; but it is proposed to take immediate steps for appointing others.

It may be observed, that the division of the produce of this estate into three parts is not made fairly according to the directions of the decree. One third part only was directed to be employed for the relief and maintenance of the poor; but, by the use made of the cottages belonging to the estate, and which are all occupied as poor houses, and produce no rent, the value of this part of the property also must be considered as added to that third part, whilst the other two portions receive no benefit therefrom. We think, therefore, that the parish ought to allow a fair rent for the cottages, to be added to the annual income of the estate, and that the whole should then be divided as directed.

We think, also, that the trustees ought to take steps for the gradual reduction of their mortgage, as soon as the money lately borrowed is paid off; and the addition of rent for the cottages will enable them to set apart a larger portion annually for this purpose. The present schoolmaster, however, ought not to receive less than £30 a year, according to the agreement made on his appointment.

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## HUNDRED OF BLOXHAM.

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### PARISH OF ADDERBURY.

#### FEOFFES' LANDS.

By a decree, under a commission of charitable uses, made at Banbury, and dated 20th January, 45 Elizabeth, reciting,

that it had been found, by an inquisition, that the premises thereafter mentioned had been given and appointed for the aid, ease, and benefit, of the inhabitants of the towns of Adderbury and Milton, in the parish of Adderbury, towards the payment of the fifteenth's reparation of their parish church; relief of aged, impotent, and poor people; and other such good and charitable uses. It was found that the said premises were appointed to the uses thereafter mentioned, viz.—

A cottage, with a garden, in Adderbury, given by a deed of feoffment, dated 24th March, 30th Henry 8th, by George Smith, to Anthony Bustard, and others, feoffees, and their heirs.

A messuage, and one yard land and a half, in Bodicot, given by deed of feoffment, dated 20th May, 32 Henry 8th, by Ralph London, to the said Anthony Bustard, and others.

A messuage, and half a yard land, with the appurtenances, in Milton and Adderbury, called Dame Hellen's land, given by a deed of feoffment, dated 3d May, 32 Henry 8, by Richard Schadd and William Maul, surviving feoffees to the said Anthony Bustard and others.

A messuage, and half a yard land, with the appurtenances, in Adderbury and Milton, called Brice's land, given by deed of feoffment, dated 10th May, 32 Henry 8, by George Smith and others, surviving feoffees, to the said Anthony Bustard and others.

A meadow, with the appurtenances, in Adderbury West, called Crowton Hook, given by deed of feoffment, dated 20th May, 32 Henry 8, by Thomas Eaton and others, surviving feoffees, to the said Anthony Bustard.

Altenement, with a close, and parcel of meadow, in Mill Mead, in Adderbury, given by deed of feoffment, dated 14th January, 1 Edward 4, made by Maud Hay to William Bedmester, vicar of Adderbury, and others.

A messuage, some time called a Toft, and certain lands and leys in Adderbury, called Cocks leys, given by deed of feoffment, dated 11th October, 32 Henry 8, by William Mall, to the said Anthony Bustard and others, to the uses aforesaid.

Five lands arable, and six leys, and one parcel of meadow, called Town hook, in Milton fields, time out of mind employed to the uses aforesaid, in Milton only.

An annuity of 20s, issuing forth of a yard and quarter land in Adderbury West fields, the inheritance of William Bustard, called Leach's land, theretofore given to such charitable uses as aforesaid, and so employed time out of mind.

Another annuity of 20s, issuing forth of a yard and a quar-

ter land in Adderbury field aforesaid, called Leach's land, the inheritance of Thomas Kinstone, given to the same uses.

Two cottages, with the appurtenances, and a close and a half of land, and two acres of meadow, in Bloxham Fienes, given by one William Covarster to the aforesaid uses, by copy of court roll, dated 19th October, 27th Henry 8, to the said Anthony Bustard and others.

A yard land, and three roods of meadow, in Bloxham Beauchamp, given by the said Edward Covarster, by copy of court roll, dated the monday after the feast of St. Martin, 28 Henry 8, to George Danvers and others.

An acre and a rood of Arable land, in the town field of Adderbury East, called Nell bridge acre, the profits whereof were yearly received by the setters of the said town field for the repair of Nell bridge.

A parcel of land in Adderbury East, bought by the town of Adderbury, to build a free school upon.

And also, a cottage, with a cow's common, in Adderbury East, and a barn there, called the Town house and Town barn, given to the uses first above-mentioned, and so employed time out of mind.

Also, a sum of £4, given by the said Anthony Bustard, in his life-time, and Richard Gill, for the providing of charcoal, yearly to be sold to the poor of the said parish of Adderbury, according to the same rate of £4.

One quarter of mastlin corn, given by the will of the said Anthony Bustard, yearly, out of his lease of the demesnes of the manor of Adderbury, to be disposed of in bread amongst the poor of the said town, during the said lease.

The yearly sum of 3s, given by the will of Thomas Hall, of Bodicot, to be for ever bestowed in bread, amongst the poor people of the said town, on Good Friday.\*

And it was ordered, that the said premises, hereditaments, and sums of money, should continue to the uses therein aforesaid, to be employed by the discretion of the feoffees thereafter named, and the churchwardens, for the time being, and the better part of the inhabitants of Adderbury and Milton aforesaid.

And it was further ordered, that the said annuities, issuing out of Leach's land, should be paid yearly, at Lady-day and Michaelmas, to the churchwardens; and, in default of payment for the space of 14 days after either of the said feasts, that the said churchwardens, for the time being, should have power to distrain.

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\* See Hall's Charity, hereafter.

And that when any six of the feoffees, for the time being, should be dead, the survivors should, at the request of the churchwardens, for the time being, nominate and elect six new feoffees, dwelling within the towns of Adderbury and Milton, to be joined with them in all and every the said premises; and that, after the death of William Bustard, therein named, all leases to be made by the feoffees should be with the consent of 12 other honest, substantial, and discreet inhabitants of the said towns. That no lease should be made before the old lease should be surrendered, or within three years of expiration. That no feoffee should have any vote in letting the premises, unless, at the time, he should be dwelling in Adderbury or Milton. That no feoffee should be tenant to the premises, or receive any profit by the same to his own use. That no lease should be made for more than 21 years. That notice should be given in the parish church, six months before the making of any new lease.

And it was further ordered, that the rents of Nell bridge acre should go to the repairs of Nell bridge, to be applied by two of the commoners of the Town field, according to their ancient custom, and an account to be rendered to the said commoners on Easter Monday, as theretofore.

That the school-house and garden-plot adjoining should remain to the use of the schoolmaster, and should be conveyed to the warden and scholars of New College, whenever they should demand it.

That the stock of £4, given by Anthony Bustard, and Richard Gill, should be yearly employed to buy coals for the poor people of Adderbury, by the churchwardens, or by one other of the neighbours, or more, at their appointment, by the consent of the greater sort of the inhabitants.

That the five lands arable, six keys, and one parcel of meadow, called Town hook, should remain to the uses aforesaid, within the town of Milton only, and that the inhabitants of the said town should, yearly, elect two inhabitants to receive and dispose of the same.

That the two legacies of Anthony Bustard and Thomas Hall should be disposed of according to the wills of the donors.

That a table should be put up in the parish church, containing an account of all the said gifts.

By another decree, dated September 30th, 1627, referring to the decree above abstracted, it is recited that—

*John Sadler*, of Adderbury, by will, dated 26th August 1605, gave 40s to the town of Adderbury, to remain as a stock to buy coals, yearly, for the poor there, and to be em-

played by the churchwardens in the same manner as the £4 given by Anthouy Bustard and Richard Gill.

That *Christopher Jakeman*, by will, dated 10th July 1617, gave to the feoffees of the town land of Adderbury, £5, to remain as a stock, the interest to be yearly distributed amongst the poor, at the discretion of the vicar and churchwardens.

That *Thomas Herbert*, by will, dated 4th June 1607, gave to the said feoffees £10, for the like purpose.

That *John Adkins*, by will, dated 14th February 1624, gave £10, the interest thereof to be distributed to the poor at Christmas and Whitsuntide, by the churchwardens, and two other honest men of Adderbury, by their appointment.

That *Mrs. Green*, wife of Richard Green, gave, in her life-time, to the poor of Adderbury, £20, the interest to be bestowed in cloth for six poor people.

That *William Bustard* gave one cottage of copyhold in Adderbury East, called Wisdom's land, to the use of the poor there.

And that *John Bayleyes* gave, by will, 20s, to the poor of Adderbury, out of his lands in Adderbury West, called Billing's land, out of a meadow, called the Great Plot, in the Myes.

And it was ordered, that the rents and profits of the lands, hereditaments, and monies, in this and the former decrees mentioned, should be conveyed and assigned to the feoffees thereby appointed. That no leases should be granted of any of the said lands, except in possession, and without fines, at the best improved rent; and that the said feoffees should keep an account of the yearly receipts and disbursements, and should yearly, in Easter week, make their account before three justices of the peace for the county of Oxford, and the overseers of the said parish, or the more part of them, so that one justice of the peace should always be present; and that whenever there should be only six feoffees living, the survivors should convey and assign the premises to the use of themselves and six other inhabitants of Adderbury, to be approved of by the three next justices of the peace, and the churchwardens, and overseers.

By indenture, dated 16th January 1819, reciting the two decrees above abstracted, *William Wilson*, *Richard Spence*, of Adderbury East, *Thomas Turner*, of Milton, and *Thomas Tomkins*, of Adderbury West, conveyed to the use of themselves (excepting *Thomas Tomkins*, who wished to resign the trust), and of *Thomas Wilson*, *Thomas Townsend*, *William Gardner*, and *James Flint*, of Adderbury East, *William*

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Bellow, John Bellow, John Barber, of Adderbury West, and Richard Torns, and Thomas Turner the younger, of Milton, their heirs, and assigns, the following premises, upon the trusts declared in the said decrees :—

1. Two cottages and gardens, with the appurtenances, in Adderbury West, in the occupation of four persons therein named.

2. Two closes in Bodicot, containing 34A. 1R. 20P. set out upon the inclosure of the common fields of Adderbury East, Adderbury West, and Bodicot, in 1768, in lieu of one yard land and a half, with the commons thereto belonging, in Bodicot.

3. Six several closes in Milton, containing 44A. 2R. 8P. with a homestead, barn, and newly erected cottage thereon, which were set out upon the said inclosure, in seven several allotments, in lieu of one half yard land, with the commons thereto belonging, in Milton field, and certain odd lands and commons in Adderbury West and Milton.

4. A close in Adderbury West, called Ley close, containing 1A. and 20P. (taken in exchange for an allotment of 2A. and 7R. from Christopher Doyley), forming part of a close of pasture of 1A. 2R. 10P. hereafter mentioned, (No. 6.)

5. A messuage, or tenement, in Adderbury West, sometime called a Toft.

6. A close of pasture, containing, with the allotment of 1A. and 20P. above-mentioned, (No. 4.) 1A. 2R. 10P.

7. A parcel of ground in Adderbury East, on which a free school was built.

8. A cottage and a barn, called the Town house and Town barn.

Also an annuity of 20s, arising out of lands in Adderbury West, which were set out upon the inclosure, in lieu of lands, formerly the inheritance of William Bustard, called Leach's lands.

And an annuity of 20s, arising out of lands in Adderbury West, which were set out in lieu of the lands called Leach's lands, formerly the inheritance of Thomas Kingston.

At a court, held for the manors of Bloxham Beauchamp, and Bloxham Fiennes, on the 16th October 1819, William Wilson, Richard Spencer, and Thomas Turner, surviving feoffees, surrendered an allotment, containing 25A. and 28P. which, on the inclosure of the fields of Bloxham, was allotted to John Barber and others, in lieu of one yard land and a half, with one cottage, and all rights of common thereto belonging, such allotment being situate in certain parts of the field of Bloxham, called Priest lands, Brooke meadows, and



land adjoining, to the use of themselves, and of Thomas Wilson, and the other parties to the indenture of 1819 (except Thomas Turner, the younger), their heirs, and assigns; to hold the same, subject to the rents and services of right accustomed, according to the tenor of a decree, remaining on record in the court of Chancery.

At the same court, the same parties surrendered an allotment, containing 2A. 1R. 27P. which was set out by the commissioners, on the inclosure of the fields of Bloxham, in lieu of a messuage, or tenement, given up to be allotted in exchange to Samuel Hawkes, which allotment was situate in such parts of the fields of Bloxham, as mentioned in the preceding surrender, to the same uses.

On the 27th March 1811, the feoffees sold and conveyed for the several sums hereafter mentioned, the following premises, for the redemption of the land-tax, chargeable upon the estates vested in them :—

	£.	s.	d.
A close, at Milton, sold for .....	120	-	-
A piece of ground and barn, in Milton .....	15	10	-
A piece of land, or garden, late Swift's .....	29	-	-
Making together.....£	164	10	-

This sum not being quite sufficient for the purpose, the remainder was made up out of the money in the hands of the feoffees, the whole amount of the purchase of the land-tax being £203. 8s 7d.

1. The premises first mentioned in the trust deed are occupied, rent-free, by four paupers, who are put in by the overseers of Adderbury West; no rent is paid for them by the overseers. They are repaired by the feoffees, but are now in bad condition, and are worth about £5 a year.

2. The two closes in Bodicot are let to James Gardner, on lease, dated 11th November 1820, for 10 years, from 10th October preceding, at the rent of £78. 15s. This rent having been found too high, it has been since reduced to £75. 9s, which is the full value.

3. The six closes in Milton, with the appurtenances, which include an allotment set out in respect of the Town hook, together with the copyhold premises, mentioned in the surrenders above abstracted, are let to John Gough, on lease, dated 11th November 1820, to hold, from 10th October preceding, for 10 years, at the rent of £164. 5s; this rent has been subsequently reduced to £153. 6s, which is the full value of the premises.

4. } The close in Adderbury West, called Ley close,  
6. } containing nearly two acres, is let to Nathaniel Harding, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £4. 1s.

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5. The tenement in Adderbury West, is let to James Crawford, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £9. 10s. These are fair rents.

7. The site of the free school, which is under the management of the warden and scholars of New College, Oxford, as trustees thereof.

8. The premises, called the Town house and Barn, are not now known.

On account of the two annuities of 20s each, mentioned in the trust deed, there is received £1. 13s 9d from seven different persons, landholders, in Adderbury East and West; the same amount having been paid for many years.

The fees also receive, as the gift of John Baylis, mentioned in the decree of 1627, the yearly sum of £1, from Mr. William Bellow, in respect of some land he holds in Adderbury West.

And the sum of £1 a year is received from William Flint, for a small piece of ground, adjoining the Pest house.

From this income, amounting last year to £249. 5s 9d, there is to be deducted, in the first place, the sum of £2. 10s for the expenses of insurance and chief rents. The sum of £2 is paid to the surveyor of the high roads, for the repairs of Nell bridge, and £2. 2s is allowed to the schoolmaster for keeping the accounts.

The remainder, being £235. 14s 9d, was divided in the following manner, at Easter 1823, amongst the different divisions of the parish, Adderbury East, Adderbury West, and Milton:—

	s.	d.
Three-fifths of Baylis's gift to Adderbury East.....	12	-
Two-fifths to Adderbury West.....	8	-
In respect of the payment out of the Pest-house ground, to Adderbury East.....	13	-
The rent payable in respect of the Town hook to Milton.....	2	16
The residue, £231. 5s 9d, was divided into two equal parts, whereof one moiety, £115. 12s 10½d (with the before-mentioned sums of 12s and 13s) was carried to the account of Adderbury East.....	115	12 10½
The other moiety is divided into two equal parts, one of which was, (with the two-fifths of Baylis's gift) paid over to Adderbury West.....	57	16 5½
The other part was (with the rent of the Town hook) paid over to Milton.....	57	16 5½
	£	235 14 9

A similar division has been made since the year 1805. Before that time, from the year 1796, one moiety used to be carried to Adderbury East; two-thirds of the remaining moiety to Adderbury West, and one-third to Milton. Pre-

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viously to 1796, the repairs of the church were paid wholly out of this fund.

These accounts are regularly made up every year, and generally signed by the feoffees; up to the year 1812, the accounts appear to have been examined by the churchwardens of the different divisions, and allowed by magistrates; but that practice has since been neglected.

In Adderbury East there was given to the poor, last year,	£.	s.	d.
linen, or calico, to the amount of.....	81	17	—
Different sums of money .....	80	13	—
There was also paid to the overseers, for rent of parish houses, occupied by people who refuse paying their own rent,			
the sum of .....	14	—	—

The practice in this division is to give to the head of every poor family, residing in or belonging to the division, 7s in linen; or, if they are careful and sober persons, in money; and the sum paid to the overseers for rent, is what would otherwise have been given to the persons residing in the parish houses, in cloth or money; but, as these persons, though able, refuse to pay their rents, the allowance is stopped, and paid to the parish officers.

About six or eight years ago, the sum of £45 was paid out of this portion of the charity to Mr. Richard Spencer, in order to establish a coal fund. This stock still exists, and 40 or 50 tons of coals are purchased every summer, for about 1s 2d a cwt. and are sold to the poor in the winter at 1s 4d. By these means, the poor are sure of a supply during a frost. The sale price is hardly sufficient to keep up the stock, but the deficiency has been made up by Mr. Spencer.

In Adderbury West, nearly the whole amount is distributed in linen, at two periods of the year, Michaelmas and Lady-day. In the last year, ending Easter 1823, about 75 persons received the benefit of each distribution, according to the number in their family. Every poor person belonging to the division, whether residing within it or not, receives a portion of the charity in turn. Additional clothing, or a sum of money, is also given sometimes to persons who are in peculiar distress.

In Milton, the sum received last year, was distributed amongst 27 or 28 families, in different articles of clothing, in sums proportioned to the number in each family. Tickets are given to the persons, expressing the amount they are to receive, which they take to shops in the neighbourhood, and the bills are sent to the feoffees.

The accounts of the distribution in each part of the parish are kept separately, but they are not submitted to the inspection of the overseers or magistrates.

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In all the three divisions, the same mode of indiscriminate distribution prevails, no attention being paid to the character of the persons who receive the benefit of the charity. This appears to us to be extremely objectionable, and we have recommended to the parishioners to adopt some means for rendering the charity more useful, by confining it to persons who endeavour to support themselves by their own industry, or are prevented from so doing by age or misfortune; and we feel great pleasure in being able to state, that, at a meeting of the parish, resolutions have been adopted for giving effect to our suggestions.

Amongst other things, it has been agreed to apply £20 yearly to the repairs of the church; and, as it appears by the decree of 45 Elizabeth, that this was one of the objects of the charity, no objection can fairly be made to this determination.

#### HALL'S CHARITY.

The yearly sum of 3s (as it is recited in the decree of 45 Elizabeth, above-mentioned), was given by the will of *Thomas Hall*, of Bodicot, to be for ever bestowed in bread, amongst the poor people of the town of Adderbury, on Good Friday.

This sum is laid out in bread, every year, by *Richard Austin*, of Bodicot, the owner of property supposed to be charged with the payment.

The bread is regularly sent to the overseer, by whom it is given away in penny loaves, on Good Friday, after divine service.

#### HAMLET OF BODICOT.

##### PITAM'S CHARITY.

*Alice Pittam*, by will, dated 20th June 1723, devised to *Thomas North*, and two others, her dwelling-house, with the appurtenances, in Bodicot, upon trust, to sell the same; and out of the proceeds thereof, she bequeathed £15 to the said *Thomas North*, and others, in trust, to set the same out at interest, or to lay it out in land, and to dispose of the yearly increase to such poor people of the town of Bodicot as should receive no collections from the overseers, nor have any lands in their possession, according to their own discretion, on Good Friday, yearly.

By indenture (the date whereof is cut off), reciting the will of *Alice Pittam*, above abstracted, and from which the said abstract is taken, and reciting, that *Sarah Grimsley*, had, upon the death of the testatrix, entered upon the said premises; and had, by her will, devised to *Thomas Grimsley*

part thereof, for life, with remainders over, subject to the payment of the yearly annuity charged on the same; it is witnessed, that, in consideration of £12, Thomas French, and Elizabeth his wife, being then entitled to the whole of the premises, conveyed the same to Thomas Compton, and his heirs, as to one tenement, part thereof to the use of the said Thomas Compton, and his heirs, subject to, and chargeable with the payment of the sum of £15, or interest for the same, at five per cent, to such poor people of Bodicot, as before-mentioned, according to the directions of the said Alice Pittam.

By indenture, dated 6th July 1802, Ann Compton, Henry Murray, and Mary, his wife, in consideration of £30, conveyed, according to their respective estates, to John Gunn and six others, of Bodicot, and their heirs, the whole of the premises above-mentioned, described as a messuage, or tenement, with the appurtenances, then used as two tenements, which had been bought, subject to the charge thereafter mentioned, by Thomas Compton; upon trust, to permit the same to be enjoyed by the churchwardens, and overseers of the poor of Bodicot, for the time being, or to permit them to receive the rents in aid of the poor rates, with a covenant by the conveyors, that the same were free from incumbrances, except the said legacy of £15.

Since these premises were purchased on account of the parish, the annual sum of 15s, charged thereon, has been regularly paid out of the poor rates, and equally divided about Easter by the chapelwardens, amongst 15 poor widows.

#### CHAPEL LAND.

An allotment was set out upon the inclosure of the fields of Bodicot, about 1768, in lieu of a cow common in the open fields, the produce of which is supposed to have been given for the use of the chapel.

This allotment contains about two acres and a quarter, and is let to John Bonner, upon an agreement, for seven years, at the rent of £8. 14s, which has since been reduced to £7.

This rent is carried to the chapelwardens' account.

### PARISH OF BLOXHAM.

#### FEOFFEES' ESTATE.

In a decree made under a commission of charitable uses at Banbury, and dated 20th January 1602, it is recited, that

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the following lands, tenements, hereditaments, and sums of money, had been given and appointed for the aid, ease, and benefit, of the inhabitants of the town of Bloxham, towards the payment of their fifteenths, reparations of their parish church, relief of aged, impotent, and poor people, and other such good and charitable uses; viz.—

1. One cottage in Bloxham; called Cockys.

2. Another cottage there, called Lokers.

[Which several cottages had been surrendered at a court, held for the manor of Bloxham Fiennes, 28th October, 2 Henry VIII, to hold to themselves for the use of the said town.]

3. One half messuage, called Watkin Joustler's, with the appurtenances, in Bloxham.

4. A cottage, on the north part of the said town, with three quarters of a yard land thereto belonging.

5. One yard land, lying on the south part of the said town, called Sparrow-hawks.

6. One yard land,\* in the field of Bloxham, on the north of the said town, late in the tenure of John Ilyman.

[To which premises Anthony Counce, and others, had been admitted tenants, at a court held for the same manor, 1st October, 29th Henry VIII.]

7. A cottage, on the south part of the said town, lying against the church stile, on the north part of the said church.

8. Two yard lands, with their appurtenances, on the south of the said town.

9. One yard land, with the appurtenances, at Milcomb.

10. One yard land, and a quarter of a yard land, with the appurtenances, in the north part of the said town.

11. One half yard land, with the appurtenances, on the north of the said town.

12. Another half yard land, with the appurtenances, on the north part of the said town.

13. And also a cottage, on the south part of Bloxham-bridge, commonly called the Mill; then in the occupation of three widows.

[All which last-mentioned premises had been surrendered at a court held for the manor of Bloxham Beauchamp, at Whitsuntide, 4th Edward VI, by Thomas Lovell Clarke, to the use of John Bustard, and others, and their heirs, to the

\* In another part of this decree it is recited, that, upon a suit lately had in the court of chancery, between Sir Richard Fenis, and the inhabitants of Bloxham, it was agreed, by consent, that the said Sir Richard Fenis, and his heirs, should enjoy the said yard land, late Ilyman's, paying yearly, to the inhabitants of Bloxham, 20s, at Michaelmas and Lady-day.

intent that they should, with the rents and profits, repair the great and the little bridge, at Bloxham, and bear and discharge other town charges, by the sight and discretion of the greater part of the inhabitants of the said town.

And it is further recited, that—

14, 15. Two houses in Bloxham, the one on the south side of the church there, called the Church house, and the other on the south part of the town; called the Alms house, had been from time whereof the memory of man was not to the contrary used by the inhabitants of Bloxham, to the following purposes; viz.—The town house to keep court in, and for other necessary uses, and the other to place poor impotent people in.

16. That William Dalbye, late parson of Over Heyford, by will, gave to John Hinton, and another, his overseers, £20, to charitable uses, and that they had appointed £16 thereof to be a stock for the relief of the poor people there.

17. That upon a controversy between the abbot and convent of Godstow, some time owners of the rectory of Bloxham, and the parishioners of Bloxham, touching 10 quarters of grain, paid by the said abbot and convent out of the said rectory, to the relief of the poor people. It was ordered, by the Bishop of Lincoln, to whom the same had been referred, that the said abbot and convent, and their successors, should yearly pay, in lieu of the said 10 quarters of grain, towards the relief of the poorest and distressed people of Bloxham, out of the said rectory, at every Michaelmas, Christmas, Lady-day, and Midsummer, the sum of 6s 8d, which order was afterwards confirmed by the provost and scholars of Eton college, to whom the said rectory came.

18. That Walter Calcott, by will, out of £100, which he gave, directed 6s 8d to be for ever paid to the poor of Bloxham.

19. That the ancestor of Christopher Pitt, gave to the poor of Bloxham, 3s 4d, to be yearly paid out of Garnes' land in Bloxham, for the benefit of the poor.

20. That Richard Dalbye, by will, gave 3s 4d, as a stock, for the repairs of the highways in Bloxham:

21. That John Samon, gave 3s 4d for the like purpose.

22. That Thomas Hall, of Bodicot, gave 3s yearly, to be bestowed in bread to the poor of Bloxham, on Good Friday.

23. That William Huggins surrendered a part of a cottage in Bloxham, to the use of Anthony Cuncer, and three others, as feoffees, in trust, and their heirs, to the use of the town of Bloxham, to the intent that the rent should be yearly distributed amongst the poor of Bloxham.

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And it was by the said decree ordered, that the then surviving feoffees should hold the premises thereinbefore mentioned, for the charitable uses before expressed, and that they should, at the next court, surrender the premises to eight of the most substantial men of the said parish, to be nominated by the churchwardens and vicar, upon the like trusts; and that, from time to time afterwards, the four surviving feoffees, upon request made to them by the vicar and churchwardens of Bloxham, should surrender to such eight or more of the chief inhabitants of the said parish, as the said vicar and churchwardens should nominate; that the feoffees should not take any benefit to themselves from the said premises; that upon the surrender or death of any tenant, or demise of any part of the said premises, no fine or heriot should be paid to the lord of the manor for the time being, or any other duties, the yearly chief rents, and suit of court excepted; that four men, yearly, being parishioners and inhabitants of Bloxham, should be chosen on the 2d November, the one by Sir Richard Fenis, knight, and the others by the inhabitants of Bloxham, or the major part of them; and that such persons should collect the rents, and should yearly distribute the same, for the charitable uses above expressed, and account for the same, on the 2d November following, before the vicar, churchwardens, and the greatest part of the inhabitants, and should also carry and show their said accounts, on St. Stephen's-day next following, to the said Sir Richard Fenis, and his heirs, at his then dwelling-house in Broughton; that the church-house, and almshouse should remain to the uses to which they had been theretofore applied as aforesaid; that the stocks of money and yearly annuities should be disposed of by the said four elected men, and churchwardens, to such charitable uses as they should think fit; the like account to be made on the 2d November, as above-mentioned,

And it was further ordered, that whenever fifteenths should be thereafter to be paid out of Bloxham, the said Sir Richard Fenis, and his heirs, and the more part of the chief inhabitants of Bloxham, should meet, and consider duly of the poor people of Bloxham, and of their estate, and should set down the names of those whom they should think fit to be exempted.

And it was further ordered, that Anthony Councer, the then only surviving feoffee of the premises above-mentioned (numbered 23), should, at the next court, surrender the same to the use of eight of the most substantial men of Bloxham, to be appointed as aforesaid, upon the following trusts; viz. that Sir Richard Fenis, and his heirs, should nominate the tenants thereto, who should pay to him, and his heirs, the yearly



rent of 6s 8d, to the intent that the same should be distributed in bread, on Good Friday, to the poor people of Bloxham, in the presence of the minister and churchwardens.

In another decree, dated 30th September 1627, referring to the decree above abstracted, it is recited, that, since the former decree;

23. Robert Samon had surrendered a copyhold tenement, subject to the payment of 3s 4d yearly, to the poor of Bloxham.

24. That Phillip Kendal gave 40s as a stock for the said poor.

25. That Anne White gave, by will, 20s; Edmund Busby 40s; and George Dabbe 20s, to the said poor.

26. That William Hartley, and Mary his wife, surrendered an acre of land, on the south side of Bloxham, to trustees, for the use of the vicar, for preaching a sermon, yearly, in the parish church, on Good Friday.

27. That the said William and Mary Hartley, and Roger Matthews, had surrendered to the feoffees an acre of Arable land, on the north side of Bloxham, to the use of such grammar schoolmaster, for the time being, as should teach a grammar school in Bloxham, and for default thereof, to the use of the poor in the almshouse, during such vacancy.

And it was, by the said decree, ordered, with the consent of the inhabitants, that the rents and profits of one-third part of the lands and tenements mentioned in this and the former decree, should be employed to the use of the poor of the said town, to be distributed, yearly, amongst them, according to the discretion of the feoffees; of one other third part to the repair of the parish church, and of the great and little bridge in Bloxham; and of the other third part, towards the payment of the fifteenths, and other necessary and common town charges, in Bloxham.

And it was further ordered, that the said feoffees should have power to demise the said lands and tenements, by the advice and consent of six other of the inhabitants of Bloxham, as should have one yard land a-piece, or more, in possession, provided such leases should not be granted in reversion, and not for life or lives, or above the term of ten years, nor except for the best improved rents without fine; that the rents and profits of the said lands and tenements, hereditaments, and stocks of money, in this or the former decree mentioned, should be disposed of, yearly, by such three of the feoffees as should be yearly elected out of the whole number; viz. two of them to be yearly elected by six of the inhabitants, being no feoffees, and having one yard land a-piece, or more, in Bloxham, and the vicar, churchwardens, and

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overseers, for the time being; and one of the said three to be yearly elected by the Lord Viscount Say and Sele, and his heirs, being lord of the manors of Bloxham Beauchamp, and Bloxham Fiennes, such three persons to receive the said rents and profits, and to dispose of them to the uses before expressed, for their year respectively, and that they should dispose of the same to the use of the poor, by and with the consent of the overseers, and that such three elected men should make up their accounts yearly, on the 1st November, before the steward of the Lord Say and Sele, his heirs, and assigns, being lord of the manors aforesaid, the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers, and six of the inhabitants, being no feoffees, and possessing each one yard land; such accounts to be signed by the said steward, and the vicar, and churchwardens, and overseers, or some of them.

And that the said accountants should, yearly, after they had so accounted, carry their books to the said Lord Say and Sele, his heirs, and assigns, to be approved of by him and them.

And it was further ordered, that when there should be only eight feoffees living, they should surrender, to the use of themselves, and eight more inhabitants of Bloxham, to be approved by the said Lord Say and Sele, and his heirs, lord of the manors aforesaid, the churchwardens, or overseers, and six inhabitants, having one yard land each, as aforesaid.

By another decree, taken at Chipping Norton, and dated 29d May, 11 Charles I. (1635) reciting, that, in the former decree of 1627, there was a clause that the feoffees should let the lands therein mentioned, with the advice and consent of six other the inhabitants in Bloxham, as should have one yard land a-piece. That, by another clause, the three elected townsmen, who were to dispose of the rents and profits for their year respectively, were to be elected by six such inhabitants, and the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers. And that, by another clause, the accounts were to be yearly made on the 1st November, before the steward of Lord Say and Sele, his heirs, and assigns, lord of the manors of Bloxham Beauchamp, and Bloxham Fiennes, the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers, and six such inhabitants as aforesaid, all which three clauses were found to be very inconvenient for the said feoffees, and other inhabitants, in regard it had been found by experience, that at divers of their meetings, to make election of such as should receive and dispose of the rents, there were not six of such inhabitants, as aforesaid, present, (and sometimes there had not been one such person there); and touching the letting of lands, they could not observe the said

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decree, in regard six of such inhabitants, as aforesaid, did never attend at such meetings, and they could not possibly observe the decree, in giving up their accounts before the steward of the manors, on the 1st November, for that he was always, or for the most part, in London, on that day; for redress of which inconvenience, it was ordered, that three men should be chosen yearly for disposing of the rents and profits, who should give up their accounts on the 4th October, or the 5th October, if the 4th was on Sunday, in the presence of the said steward, and of the most part of the tenants holding copyhold lands of the clear value of 20s, then present; and that three other men should then be chosen to receive and dispose of the rents for the following year, two by the major part of the tenants and copyholders, aforesaid, and one by the Lord Say and Sele, his heirs, and assigns, to be signified by his steward, or any other servant, and two of such three to be chosen out of the said feoffees, and the third a sufficient man, if no feoffee.

The lands and houses described in the documents above abstracted, were all copyhold, within the manors of Bloxham Beauchamp, or Bloxham Fiennes, and the same premises appear to have passed by successive surrenders to the present feoffees, except so far as they have been altered by inclosures.

The following is an account of the present state of the property:—

1. Two several parcels of land in Bloxham south, set out to the feoffees, upon the inclosure of the common fields in Bloxham; one of these allotments contains, by admeasurement, 21A. 2R. 29P. and the other 42A. and 12P.; and to the latter is annexed an old farm house, with a yard, and outbuildings, containing 3R. and 13P. These premises are let to William Potter, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £139.

2. Another allotment in Bloxham north, containing 43A. 3R. 26P. let to Joseph Malmsbury, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £94.

The allotments above mentioned, set out in lieu of the lands formerly held by the feoffees in Bloxham Fields, being those probably which are described in the first decree, No. 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, as containing, altogether, six yard lands.

3. Another allotment in the hamlet of Milcomb, containing 22A. 3R. 32P. set out upon the inclosure, in lieu of the lands in the common fields there, formerly held by the feoffees, (being probably those described in the said decree, No. 9, as containing one yard land); this allotment is let to the said William Potter, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £40.

The tenants above mentioned, William Potter, and Joseph

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Malmsbury, are feoffees, but it does not appear that higher rents could be obtained from any other persons. The lands were let upon a valuation, made by John Davis, another of the feoffees, who is a surveyor. For the last two or three years an abatement of £20 per cent has been made to these tenants, which, under the circumstances of the times, appears to have been reasonable. Considerable expenses have been incurred lately in repairing the house and buildings upon Potter's farm; these were done under the superintendence of Mr. Davis.

4. There is also a parcel of land, containing 2R. and 4P. set out upon the inclosure, in lieu of the acre of land called the School acre, mentioned in the said decree, No. 27. This lies undivided from an allotment set out to the poor, in lieu of a right of cutting furze. The whole is let together by the churchwardens, as stated hereafter, but no part of the rents is paid over to the feoffees.

Besides the lands above mentioned, there are the following premises in Bloxham, most of which it is impossible now to identify with those described in the decree.

5. A range of buildings on the south side of the church yard, comprising, a room called the Court house (which is mentioned in the first decree, No. 14), with two or three apartments beneath, now used as a coal house, and also a building used as a school.

6. Another range of buildings facing the south, called the Almshouses (mentioned in the same decree, No. 15). These consist of four apartments on the north side of the churchyard. They are occupied, rent free, by poor persons put in by the feoffees, generally upon the recommendation of the vicar.

7. Another range of buildings, adjoining those last mentioned, and facing the west, containing four houses, one of which has been occupied, rent free, by the parish clerk for the time being, as long as can be remembered. The others are occupied by paupers, put in by the feoffees, who, for the most part, occupy them rent free.

[The whole, or part, of these premises, are probably the cottage described in the said decree, No. 7.]

8. A range of buildings, consisting of four tenements, in a place called Merrival's lane.

9. And another range, containing four tenements, near the bridge (being probably the premises described in the said decree, No. 13). Both these ranges of buildings are also occupied by paupers, in the same manner as those before mentioned.

10. A roomy building, in Bloxham North, with a good

parson attached to it: These premises are used as a parish workhouse, but no rent is paid by the overseers.

11. A cottage and garden, in Mitcomb, let to Richard Pollin, as yearly tenants, at £2. 15s per annum, which is a fair rent.

The fees also receive the following payments, viz:—

12. From a farm, called Travell's land, in Bloxham, the yearly sum of £21.

This is the £1 ordered by the said decree to be paid by Sir Richard Fynes, in respect of the yard land described as late Hyman's, No. 6.

13. From the lessee of Eton College, the annual sum of £1. 6s 8d, charged upon the rectory of Bloxham, as mentioned in the said decree, No. 17.

14. From a farm on the south side of Bloxham, called Garner's land, the property of John Davis, the yearly sum of 3s 4d. This is supposed to be the gift of Christopher Pitt, mentioned in the said decree, No. 19.

15. From a farm, called Hawtin's hook, on the north side of Bloxham, the yearly sum of 3s 4d.

This is paid in equal moieties by Ann Godricer and Samuel Hawkes, the property out of which it is supposed to be payable, being divided between those persons. This is probably the gift of Robert Samon, mentioned in the decree of 1627. No. 23.

16, 17. The yearly sum of 3s, given by Thomas Hall, as mentioned in the first decree, No. 22; and 6s 8d, payable, as directed by the said decree, in respect of the tenement given by William Huggins, No. 23, are paid to the churchwarden, and form no part of the fees' account.

The different sums of money mentioned in the decrees are all lost. There was, however, a sum of £40, which was given by John Gascoigne, and is supposed to have been laid out, partly in building the cottages near the bridge, No. 9, and partly in repairing the spire of the church. In respect of this sum, 40s is considered as applicable yearly in putting out apprentices.

The income arising from the sources above mentioned, after deducting what has been lately allowed as abatements to the tenants, amounts to . . . . .

This is subject to land-tax and chief rents, amounting together to about . . . . .

Leaving a clear income of . . . . .

2. 1. 2.	
221 8 -	
7 10 -	
213 15 -	

The management of the property, and the disposition of the income, is committed to three persons, who are called townsmen, and are appointed according to the directions of

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the decree in 1685. The controul which they have over the estate seems to render the letting of the farms to the tenants themselves less objectionable than it would otherwise be; but it ought to be considered, that any person who is in the situation of tenant, is thereby disqualified from becoming one of the townsmen.

The income is in the first place subject to the expenses of repairs, which have been of late years very considerable; but the buildings, it is stated, are now generally in good condition. The residue is divided into three parts, according to the decree of 1627, one of which is carried to an account called the poor's book; the second to the town's book, and the third to the account of the repairs of the church and bridges.

In the last six years, the following sums were carried to each account, as one third of the clear income:—

1816.....	£59, one-third of £177
1819.....	59..... 207
1820.....	50..... 150
1821.....	70..... 210
1822.....	53..... 99
1823.....	59..... 177

The share applicable to the benefit of the poor has of late years been expended in the purchase of coals in the summer, which are laid up, and sold to the poor weekly, throughout the winter, each family being permitted to purchase a certain proportion. The price at which the coals were sold, in the year 1822-3, was 1s 2d per cwt, the price at which they were bought at the wharf having been about 1s 3d; the current price at Bloxham in the winter being from 1s 6d to 1s 8d.

	£.	s.	d.
The quantity purchased in 1822-3 was 138 tons 14 cwt. and cost.....	160	6	5
The expense of loading, unloading, and weighing out.....	10	2	—
The carriage (about £20 being due on this account) about....	23	—	—
Total expense.....	193	8	5
There was received from the sale of coals, about.....	148	—	—
From the estate.....	59	—	—
Total receipts.....	207	—	—
	193	8	5
Balance.....	13	11	7

There was at the beginning of the year 1822-3, a balance against the charity of £47. 5s 9d. This debt arose in great measure from the circumstance of the coals having been sold to the poor in the year 1820-1, at 1s per cwt.

With respect to the system adopted for giving to the poor the benefit of this charity, it seems to us that there is hardly any that would be found of more real and substantial service

to them than this, provided it be managed with proper care and economy, and, when the existing debt is paid off, the advantage may be increased by reducing the price of the coal to the poor families who purchase it.

The share of the rents, carried to the book for the town charges, is applied in mending the streets and causeways, keeping the parish engine in repair; a subscription to the Oxford Infirmary; county rate, and other things of the like nature.

From this fund also apprentices are occasionally put out; the last was bound out in 1820, with a premium of £14.

At the settling of the accounts, October 1823, there was a balance due to this book of £11. 13s 10d.

The third share is carried to an account for the use of the church, and bridges, and it appears, that from 1821 to the present time, the whole has been expended in keeping the church church-yard, the clock and chimes, and the bridges, in repair, excepting £2. 10s a quarter, which has been paid to the clerk for his salary.

At the settlement of accounts, October 1823, there was a balance due to this account of £67. 6s 1d.

The feoffees meet the steward of the manor at the court-house, on the 4th October, yearly, when the general accounts are submitted to him, and signed by him, if approved; but the particular accounts of the three separate heads are not regularly audited by him, though they are submitted to his inspection. Since 1820, the feoffees have kept no money in hand, but have kept an account with Messrs. Cobb, bankers, at Banbury, and have made their principal payments by checks upon them.

There are now 10 feoffees living; these are appointed by the survivors, from time to time, and the new feoffees are then admitted with the survivors, to the copyhold premises.

It may be observed, that although the clear rents are divided equally amongst the three branches of charity, pointed out by the decree of 1627, the portion allotted to the poor appears to fall short of what they ought to receive, inasmuch as they derive no benefit from a part of the estate, the messuages, and cottages, in Bloxham; for, these tenements, being used for the lodging of parish paupers, they are, in fact, used to the relief of the parish at large, as fully as if they were let and the rents were carried wholly to the account of the town's book; and yet, though the poor's fund receives no share of the profits of these tenements, it is considerably reduced by the expenses incurred in repairing them. The annual value of these premises, numbered in the rental, 7, 8, 9, 10, is

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estimated at £29; and it appears to us that one third thereof ought to be paid to the poor's book, and one third to the account of the repairs of the church and bridges.

#### SCHOOL ACRE.

In the preceding account of the feoffees' estate, we have stated, that, by a decree made under a commission of charitable uses, and dated 30th September 1637, it is recited, that *William and Mary Hartley*, and *Roger Matthew*, surrendered to the feoffees an acre of Arable land, on the north side of Bloxham, to the use of such grammar schoolmaster for the time being as should teach a grammar school in Bloxham, and, for default thereof, to the use of the poor in the almshouse during such vacancy; but there are no particular directions in the decree as to the application of the rents.

An allotment was set out in lieu thereof upon the inclosure, containing 2R. 4P. which is undivided from an allotment of 3A. 2R. 9P. set out to the poor, in lieu of a right of cutting furze. The whole is let together by the churchwardens for £3. 3s per annum; but no part of this rent is applied to the purpose of a school, or to the poor in the almshouses, except so far as they may partake of it in the distribution, which is made as if the whole arose from the fuel allotment. There is no grammar school now in Bloxham, nor is there any other endowment for one than this land. The proportion of the rent payable in respect of the school allotment is about 8s.

#### HUGGINS'S GIFT.

We have stated, in our account of the feoffees' estate, that it appears from the decree of 1602, there mentioned, that *William Huggins* surrendered a part of a cottage in Bloxham, to the use of Anthony Councer, and three others, as feoffees in trust, and their heirs, to the use of the town of Bloxham, to the intent that the rent should be yearly distributed amongst the poor of Bloxham.

And that it was by the said decree ordered, that Anthony Councer, the then only surviving feoffee of these premises, should, at the next court, surrender the same to the use of eight more substantial men of Bloxham, to be appointed as therein mentioned, upon the following trusts; viz. that Sir Richard Fenis, and his heirs, should nominate the tenants thereto, who should pay to him, and his heirs, the yearly rent of 6s 8d, to the intent that the same should be distributed in bread, on Good Friday, to the poor people of Bloxham, in the presence of the minister and churchwardens.

The churchwardens receive 6s 8d yearly, from Bernard Spurrett; of Banbury, who succeeded to some land in Bloxham,



called Councor's land, which is probably the site of the cottage mentioned in the decree.

The amount is given in bread to poor widows of the parish, on Good Friday, by the churchwardens.

#### HALL'S GIFT.

We have also stated, in our report of the feoffees' estate, that it appears from the said decree, that *Thomas Hall*, of Bodicot, gave 3s yearly, to be bestowed in bread, to the poor of Bloxham, on Good Friday.

Three shillings' worth of bread is received yearly, the day before Good Friday, from Richard Austin, the owner of lands in Bodicot, which are supposed to be charged with this payment.

The bread is given away on Good Friday, to the poor of Bloxham North.

#### MATHEW'S GIFT.

There is the following inscription on the table of benefactions in the church :—

"A. D. 1630.—*Roger Mathew*, vicar of Bloxham, in the county of Oxford, gave to the town of Bloxham, the sum of £20 for ever, for the use of the poor tradesmen and others, in manner as followeth :—The two elder townsmen and the churchwardens shall set the sum of money out, without any interest, in £5, or 50s, in a parcel, as they shall think proper, only to such persons, that either they or their wives were born in the said town of Bloxham, provided that they shall always give sufficient and good security for the same to the town of Bloxham."

This money is stated to have been lost long ago, by the insolvency of the persons to whom it was lent.

### HAMLET OF MILCOMB.

#### TOWN LANDS.

By an award made on the inclosure of Milcomb open fields, dated 16th May 1794, the commissioners allotted to the trustees or feoffees of Milcomb town land, in lieu of, and as a full compensation for, certain lands in the open fields, a plot of ground on Milcomb Heath, containing, 12A. 2R. 14P.

There is no other document in the parish relating to the property called the town lands.

The property consists of the allotment above-mentioned, now let to *Thomas Hartley*, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £12, which is the full value; and of eight cottages, occupied by poor persons, nominally, at the rent of 6d a week.

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Out of these rents there are paid annually :—

The parish clerk's wages	£2	-	-
Land-tax		8	8

And the residue, after payment of the repairs of the cottages, is applied in discharge of the expenses incurred by the constable and churchwardens ; and if this rent is not sufficient to pay the churchwardens' and constable's account, the balance is paid out of the poor's rate. Nothing has been given away to the poor out of this account in the memory of any of the inhabitants.

Mr. John Davis is considered as the only surviving seoffee. An annual meeting is held, at which two persons are elected townsmen, and they have the management for the year.

## PARISH OF BROUGHTON.

### HORLEY LAND.

There is a close, containing about an acre, in Horley, called "The Horley Land," now let to James Griffin, as yearly tenant, at £2. 2s a year.

It is not known from whom this was derived, nor are there any documents in the parish relating to it. The rent is received by the churchwardens every three or four years, when asked for, and is divided in small sums, one half amongst the poor of Broughton, and the other amongst the poor of North Newington.

## TOWNSHIP OF NORTH NEWINGTON.

### CHARITIES OF LADY SAY AND SELE.

*Christobella*, Viscountess *Say* and *Sele*, by will, dated 8th December 1787, bequeathed to Joseph Bullock, John Manley, Richard Hopkins, and Thomas Green, £3,000 upon trust, to put the same out at interest, on good security, and to pay and apply the interest and dividends thereof in putting out apprentices, yearly; six poor boys of the parish of Grendon, and six poor boys of the parish of Quainton, both in the county of Bucks, such poor boys to be legitimate, and she recommended to her said trustees, not to give more than £8 for apprenticing any such poor boys ; and directed, that when her said trustees should be reduced to two, that then the two survivors should each name one other trustee ; or in case any of her said trustees should decline, or refuse to act in the said trust, she directed those trustees who should accept the

trusts, to nominate an equal number in the place of the declining or refusing trustees.

And the testatrix further bequeathed, to the said Joseph Bullock and John Manley, the sum of £4,000 upon trust, that they should lay out the sum of £2,000, part thereof, in building a workhouse at Grendon, and another workhouse at Quainton, for the reception of poor industrious widows, and other poor persons of the said parishes respectively; as they should think proper, such poor widows, or other poor persons, to be industriously employed in spinning and knitting, and other useful industry, under the direction of the said trustees; and upon further trust, to put the sum of £2,000, residue thereof, out at interest, on good security, and pay and apply the dividends and proceeds thereof, at their discretion, in the support of such industrious poor widows, and other poor persons in the parishes of Grendon and Quainton, in such manner as they should from time to time think fit and proper; and she gave her said trustees full power to appoint any other trustees or trustee to act in conjunction with, or to succeed them, in the execution of the said trusts, as they, or the survivor of them, or the executors, or administrators, of such survivor, should think fit to nominate and appoint; but if, by means of the Mortmain Act, they should not be able to carry those her pious intentions into execution, then she gave the said sum of £4,000 to the said Joseph Bullock and John Manley, and she gave unto them all the residue of her personal estate whatsoever, and appointed them her executors.

By a codicil to her will, dated the 27th December 1787, the testatrix, reciting that she had, by her will, given to her executors therein named the residue of her personal estate, but with intent to be applied by them as she should thereafter by any codicil direct, directed that all such residue of her personal estate, as should remain at her death, should be applied by her executors, either in the augmentation of any of the charitable donations in her will mentioned, or in the putting out of poor children apprentices in the parish of North Newton, in the county of Oxford, or in the support of poor people (not receiving alms from the parish), within the said parish of North Newton, at the discretion of her said executors, in such manner as to them should seem most proper.

The testatrix died in 1789, and proceedings were soon afterwards instituted in the court of chancery, by Joseph Bullock and John Manley, her executors, against Francois Menq and others, in which the Attorney General was also a defendant.

By an order made in this cause, dated 8th August, 1794, it was declared, that the bequest of £4,000, to be laid out in

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building workhouses at Grendon and Quainton, was void by the statute 9 Geo. 2, and that the same fell into the residue of the personal estate of the testatrix.

In the course of the proceedings, it was referred to the Master to take an account of her personal estate, not specifically bequeathed, to compute the interest due on the legacy of £2,000, and to approve of a scheme for the application of the charity, and to choose two new trustees in the stead of Richard Hopkins and Thomas Green, who were then dead.

The Master, by his report, dated 23d July 1803, certified, that the interest due upon the sum of £2,000, amounted to £1,040, and that the whole of the trust property, and personal estate of the testatrix, applicable to the charitable purposes, mentioned in her will and codicil, consisted of £5,500, three per cent consols, and £5,500 three per cent reduced, standing in the names of the said Joseph Bullock and John Manley, and of the sum of £602. 12s 7d, being the balance of cash then in their hands; and he approved of the Hon. and Rev. Jacob Marsham, D. D. and John Lowe, of the Inner Temple, gentleman, to be the two new trustees; and he also approved of a scheme for the application of the charity, which was afterwards varied by the court.

By the decree, dated 20th August 1803, it was ordered, that the whole of the sum of £3,040, being the principal and interest found due on the said legacy of £2,000, should be invested by the plaintiffs, out of the personal estate of the said testatrix, in the names of the said Joseph Bullock, John Manley, Jacob Marsham, and John Lowe, in the purchase of bank three per cent consols; and that the dividends thereof should be applied by the said trustees towards the putting out of six poor boys of the parish of Grendon, and six poor boys of the parish of Quainton, yearly, and every year, apprentices, (such boys to be legitimate); and that the whole of the clear residue of the said testatrix's personal estate should be continued or invested in the three per cent reduced annuities, and transferred into the names of the said four trustees; and that out of the interest and dividends of the said clear residue, when so invested, the said trustees should advance and pay so much more money, yearly, and every year, as they should find and judge requisite and necessary, for the putting out of the said six poor boys of the parish of Grendon, and the said six poor boys of the parish of Quainton, apprentices, provided that the sum of money to be paid with or for each boy, as the apprentice fee, and for the indentures of apprenticeship, or any other expense relating to the placing out each such boy, should not exceed the sum of

£20; and that after such payment, and the payment of the annual costs, charges, and expenses, of the said trustees, in executing the trusts of the charity, the rest of the said dividends should be, yearly and every year, divided equally; and that one moiety thereof should be applied by the said trustees in putting out poor children of the parish of North Newton, apprentices (such poor children to be legitimate); and that the other moiety should be applied by the said trustees in or towards the support of poor people within and belonging to the said parish of North Newton, not receiving alms of the said parish, at the discretion of the said trustees, and in such manner as to them should seem most proper. And it was further ordered, that the said Joseph Bullock and John Manley should forthwith transfer into the names of themselves, and the other trustees, the said sum of £5,500, bank three per cent consols, in part satisfaction of the said sum of £3,040, reported to be due for principal and interest on the legacy of £2,000, according to the current price which such stock bore on the 11th day of August then instant; and that the residue of the said £3,040, together with the sum of £4. 12s. for 21 days' subsequent interest, should be answered out of the said balance of £602. 12s 7d, and invested in the purchase of like stock, in the names of the said four trustees; and that the whole of the stock, three per cent consols, so to be transferred and purchased as aforesaid, should afterwards remain in the joint names of the said four trustees, upon the trusts mentioned in the will of the said testatrix, respecting the legacy of £2,000; and that the dividends should be applied accordingly, towards putting out poor boys of the parishes of Grendon and Quainton, apprentices, in conformity to the aforesaid scheme respecting such legacy.

And it was further ordered, that the said Joseph Bullock and John Manley, should, out of the said balance of £602. 12s 7d, retain their own, and pay to the other parties their subsequent costs, and should invest the residue in the purchase of three per cent reduced annuities, in the joint names of the said four trustees; and that they should transfer into the same names the said £5,500, three per cent reduced annuities, as constituting the clear residue of the testatrix's personal estate; and that the stock so to be purchased and transferred should remain in the joint names of the said trustees, upon trust, that they should apply the dividends in conformity to the aforesaid scheme, as respecting such residue.

Notwithstanding this decree, no stock was purchased or transferred according to the directions of the court; but the

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two several sums of £5,500, three per cent consols, and £5,500 three per cent reduced, continued in the names of the said Joseph Bullock and John Manley, until August 1814, and £458. 0s 7d, to which the sum of £602. 12s 7d was reduced by the payment of costs, remained in cash until the present month (July 1824).

Until after the deaths of Mr. Bullock and Mr. Manley, the latter of whom was the survivor, neither Dr. Marsham or Mr. Lowe, ever interfered in this charity. In August 1814, Miss Manley, who was the surviving executrix of her father, transferred into the names of Dr. Marsham and Mr. Lowe, the two several sums of £5,500, three per cent consols, and £5,500, three per cent reduced; she also paid over to them in money, a balance of £1,893. 15s 1d, which included the said sum of £458. 0s 7d, which ought to have been invested according to the directions of the decree of 1803. It does not appear why these directions were not complied with during the lives of the four trustees above-named. It is stated, however, that the £458 0s 7d, would have been invested after the death of Mr. Manley, but that Mr. Hollist, formerly one of the King's counsel, who was one of Mr. Manley's executors, declared it as his opinion, that, in consequence of the death of two of the trustees, the stock could not be purchased in the names of the survivors. In consequence, however, of our suggestions, Mr. Lowe has laid out the sum of £458. 0s 7d, in the purchase of £485. 16s 5d, three per cent reduced annuities.

Hitherto, it is to be observed, no benefit has been derived by the objects of the charity from this sum of £458. 0s 7d, which has been allowed to remain in a banker's hands, with the balance that has arisen from accumulations, without the payment of interest. Since 1814, the balance has been placed to the account of Messrs. John and William Lowe; no interest has been made of it, and it is stated, that there has always been a sufficient balance on that account to satisfy what was belonging to this charity. Whether the representatives of Mr. Manley, to whose account it was formerly placed, or Mr. Lowe (it having been placed subsequently to the account of Messrs. John and William Lowe), are liable to pay any thing in respect of the interest, still remains a question, though, perhaps, under the circumstances, a court of equity would not feel inclined to decide that they are liable thereto.

Of the dividends of the two several sums of £5,500 stock, amounting annually to £220, there are set apart the following sums:—

To answer six apprentice fees, for boys in Grendon, at £20 each .....	120	—	—
Six apprentice fees, for boys in Quainton, at £20 each .....	120	—	—
Residue for North Newington, and payment of expenses, viz.			
For two apprentices, £24 each .....	48	—	—
For poor persons, not receiving alms, at Christmas .....	40	—	—
Expenses of trust, annually, about .....	16	—	—
	£. 380	—	—

The number of apprentices put out from the parishes of Grendon and Quainton has been so small, in comparison with the funds applicable for that purpose, that great accumulations have taken place.

In July 1820, the trustees, Dr. Manham, and Mr. Lowe, presented a petition to the Master of the Rolls, in the original cause, setting forth the state of the funds, as applicable to the parishes of Grendon and Quainton, the proportion applicable to the parish of North Newington, being wholly or nearly expended every year.

The petition stated, that from the 1st January 1804, to 1st January 1820, there were only 87 boys placed out apprentices from the parish of Quainton, being nine boys fewer in number than were allowed; and that there was on the 5th March 1820, in the hands of the trustees £180, to answer nine apprentice fees of £20 each, for that parish; that during the same period, there were only 22 boys placed out apprentices from the parish of Grendon Underwood, being 74 boys fewer in number than were allowed; and that there was on the said 5th March 1820, also in the hands of the trustees, £1,480, to answer twenty-four apprentice fees for the parish of Grendon Underwood, making, with the sum of £180, before mentioned, £1,660. The petition further stated, that, at a meeting of the churchwardens, overseers, and inhabitants, of the respective parishes of Quainton and Grendon Underwood, held on the 14th day of April 1820, It was resolved, that the premium or apprentice fee of £20, allowed by and payable under the order of the court, was insufficient to answer the good and charitable designs of the said testatrix, inasmuch as it was then become difficult, and next to impossible, that respectable persons could be induced to take apprentices at so small a premium; and that, in consequence of the inadequacy of such premium, several of the boys placed out, had, from ill treatment, neglect, incompetency, or insubordination, of their masters, returned to their parents, or been abandoned to seek their own livelihood, in early stages of their apprenticeship, without having learned their trade; and that many others had been very ill taught and little benefited by their apprenticeship, and that various other mischiefs had arisen from the low

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situations and characters of the Masters whom it had been practicable to procure at so small a premium; and that it was further resolved, that application should be made to the Court of Chancery, to enable the trustees, out of the sum of £1,600, which then remained unapplied in their hands, to invest a sum which should produce an annual dividend of £60, to be added to the then yearly income of £240, which would increase it to £300, and for liberty to apply such income in apprenticing six poor boys from each of the said parishes, annually, at a premium, not exceeding £25; and that it was also resolved at that meeting, that the residue of the said sum of £1,600, should be applicable to the purposes of the said charity, in the parish of Grendon Underwood; and that, as the greater proportion of the sum to be so appropriated and invested would be contributed from that part thereof which was then applicable for the purposes of the said charity in the parish of Grendon Underwood, the inhabitants of the parish of Quanton should defray all the costs and charges of and incidental to the said intended application, and the order to be obtained thereon. The petition further stated, that at a meeting of the inhabitants of the parish of Grendon Underwood, held on the 31st day of May 1820, it was resolved, that as it was next to impossible that so many as four boys, from the said parish of Grendon Underwood, could annually be found to be placed out as apprentices under the said charity, that it would not be detrimental to the said parish of Grendon Underwood, if the number of boys to be annually placed out therefrom were limited to the number of four; and that it would be highly beneficial to the objects of the said charity, if the premium could be raised to the sum of £30; and therefore that a further application should be made for an order of the Court, that the number of boys to be annually placed out from the parish of Grendon Underwood, should be limited to four; and that a premium, not exceeding £30, should be given with each; and the petition further stated, that all parties interested were desirous that the Rev. Charles Marsham, and William Lowe, esquire, of the Inner Temple, should be appointed trustees in the places of the said Joseph Bullock and John Manley, deceased; and the petitioners prayed, that it might be referred to the Master, to inquire and state, whether, under the circumstances therein mentioned, it would not be beneficial and proper to increase the sums of money directed to be allowed for putting out poor boys apprentices, in the said parishes of Grendon and Quanton, to £80, or to some and what other sum; and to reduce the number of boys to be put out apprentices from



the said parish of Grendon, to four, or some and what other number; and in case the Master should be of opinion that such alterations were proper, that the same might be directed accordingly, and that the petitioners might be at liberty to carry in a scheme before the Master, for the application of the charity funds, and the accumulations thereof, which had arisen from the failure of the order of 20th August 1803, so far as it respected the said parishes of Grendon and Quainton, respectively, and for the annual investment of all future savings, subject to the further order of the court; and that it might be also referred to the Master, to approve of two new trustees, in the place of Joseph Bullock and John Manley, deceased, to be joined with the petitioners, in carrying the trusts of the said charity into effect.

On the 31st July 1820, this petition came on to be heard, and it was referred to the Master, to make such enquiry as was prayed.

It is much to be regretted, that, owing to the negligence of the trustees and the parishes interested, no further steps have been taken in this cause; we are assured, however, by Mr. Lowe, that he will endeavour to forward the proceedings, so that the matter may be settled, if possible, next Michaelmas term.

Since the period of filing the petition above mentioned, a further balance has accumulated in the hands of the trustees; on the 17th May 1824, it amounted to £2,528. 16s 7d, which was applicable to the different objects of charity, in the following proportions.

	£.	s.	d.
For apprentices in Grendon.....	1,600	-	-
For ditto in Quainton.....	120	-	-
For half-year's dividend, due 5th April 1824, unappropriated	82	10	-
For North Newington, two apprentices, and for poor persons	68	6	-
	2,070	16	-
Remaining to be invested for the benefit of North Newington, as part of the residue of the testatrix's personal estate, being the balance of £602. 12s 7d, mentioned in the decree of 1803, and since laid out in the purchase of £495. 16s 5d three per cent reduced.....	459	-	7
	£ 2,528	16	7

The apprentices bound out under this charity, are selected by the parish officers of the respective places above mentioned; the names of the parties are transmitted through an attorney in the country to Mr. Lowe, with a certificate of the legitimacy of the boy intended to be placed out, and, upon receipt thereof, the indentures are drawn up and sent down to be executed; one part thereof is delivered to the master, and

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the other is kept by the trustees. It seems to have been the practice, from the commencement of the charity, for the trustees to deduct £2. 2s from the amount of the premium, for the expenses of the indentures; the same course has been pursued by Mr. Lowe, under an impression that such deduction had been directed by the court of Chancery. It does not appear, however, that the court has made any other order in this respect, than what is contained in the decree of 1803, which merely provides, that the sum to be paid as the apprentice fee, and for the indentures, and the expenses relating thereto, shall not exceed £20; and, as the sum of £2. 2s seems to exceed what would be a fair remuneration to any person for drawing the indentures, and examining the certificate of legitimacy, we apprehend that such deduction would not be sanctioned by the court of Chancery.

It appears, from the resolutions of the parishioners of Grendon and Quainton, above stated, how far those parishes have enjoyed the benefit of this charity.

In North Newington, two boys, upon an average, are placed out annually. The sum of £40 is also transmitted to the parish officers, to be distributed amongst the poor of that district; this is disposed of by them, under the superintendence of the rector of Broughton, and is confined to those who are properly qualified, not receiving parish relief.

On the 9th of February, 1824, on which day the last distribution took place, 29 families received a proportion of the charity, at the rate of 7s 3d per head.

The sum of £10, which remains, after setting apart for the parishes of Quainton and Grendon £240, and for North Newington £80, is applied in defraying the general expenses of the trust. Mr. Lowe occasionally makes out an account of these expenses; and, if there is any thing over and above the amount of such expenses, it is added to the money which is sent down to North Newington, for distribution.

## PARISH OF DRAYTON.

### GIFTS OF JENKINSON AND OTHERS.

An entry in the register, which appears to be in the handwriting of Dr. Gill, who was 37 years minister of this parish, and died in 1777, states, that *James Jenkinson*, D.D. rector of Drayton, who died February 7th, 1731, gave, by will, £10, to the poor of the said parish; and that Mrs. *Mary Metcalfe*, who died April 21st, 1760, by her will, gave £10 to the poor;

both which sums were in the hands of Sir Jonathan Cope, baronet, together with £60 more, of the other benefactions, the donors of which were not then known.

The sum of £4 is annually received from Mr. Neill, agent to the Duchess of Dorset, who succeeded to a portion of the Cope property, at Hanwell and Drayton.

It is added to Mrs. Elizabeth Metcalfe's charity, next mentioned, and given away in coals, or clothing, to the poor of the parish, without distinction.

#### ELIZABETH METCALFE'S CHARITY.

*Elizabeth Metcalfe*, by will, dated 1st April, 1774, gave to the rector of Drayton, and the vicar of Banbury, for the time being, £526. 13s 6d, old South Sea annuities, to be from time to time transferred into, and stand in their joint names, upon trust, to lay out the dividends yearly, in the purchase of clothing for the poor children of the parish of Drayton, either boys or girls; such clothes to be given at their discretion, on Whitsunday, yearly, before morning service.

She also gave to the said rector and vicar, for the time being, £700, three per cent consols, to be transferred to their joint names, upon trust, to lay out, yearly, half of the dividends in purchasing clothing for poor old persons, of the parish of Drayton, men or women, at the discretion of her trustees; such clothes to be given on Christmas-day, before morning service; and to lay out the other half of the dividends in the purchase of coals, and to distribute the same on Christmas-eve, among such poor old persons of the parish of Drayton, as her trustees should approve.

The personal estate of the testatrix proved insufficient to pay the several legacies, and proceedings being instituted in the court of Chancery, an order was made in a cause of Allen v. Callow, in 1799, that the Master should (amongst other things) ascertain what was the value of the two several legacies of £526. 13s 6d, old South Sea annuities, and £700, three per cent consols, at the market price such stock respectively bore at the end of one year after the said testatrix's death; and that he should compute interest on what he should so ascertain as the value of the said legacies, after the rate of 4 per cent per annum; and it was further ordered, that the Master should apportion the personal estate of the testatrix amongst the several legatees.

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The Master, by his report, dated 11th July 1799, found that the legacy of £526. 13s 6d, old South Sea annuities, was of the value of .....	£. s. d.
And that the interest thereon, at 4 per cent, from 5th April 1795, to 6th April 1798, amounted to .....	336 8 3.
That the value of the legacy of £700, three per cent consols, was .....	49 7 7.
That interest thereon, for the like period, amounted to .....	432 5 -
	63 9 -

And the Master further found, that there was the sum of £12,807. 10s 11d, to be apportioned, the share of which, coming to this charity, was as follows :—

	Due.	Apportionment.
In respect of the legacy of £526. 13s 6d, old South Sea annuities, principal sum, as above	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Interest thereon, as above	336 8 3	210 1 6
Due on the legacy of £700, three per cent consols	49 7 7	30 16 8
Interest thereon, as above	432 5 -	269 19 2
	63 9 -	39 18 6

It appears, that after this apportionment, the sum of £2,000, the interest of which had been left by the testatrix to a certain person for life, fell into the residue of her personal estate; and, in a cause, in which Charles Hobbs and Mary Weale were plaintiffs, and John Metcalfe Wardle defendant, the Master found that there was due, in respect of the legacy, valued at £336. 8s 3d, after deducting £210. 1s 6d, received under the former apportionment, £126. 6s 9d, and that there was due for the apportionment, in respect thereof, £40. 5s 9d; that there was, in respect of the legacy, valued at £432. 5s, after deducting £269. 19s 2d, which had been received, £162. 5s 10d; and there was due for the apportionment, in respect thereof, £51. 14s 11d.

The stock, at present belonging to these charities, consists of £327. 12s 3d, three per cent consols, in respect of the legacy of £526. 13s 6d, old South Sea annuities; and of £120. 19s 8d, in the same stock; in respect of the legacy of £700, three per cent consols.

This stock now stands in the name of the Accountant General, and the dividends, upon the former sum, amounting to £9. 16s 6d, and upon the latter, to £12. 12s 8d, are paid half yearly to the rector of Drayton, and vicar of Banbury.

The amount of the smaller sum is disposed of in supplying poor children with linen, or sometimes other articles of clothing, if the parents wish it.

The amount of the larger sum is given away to the poor, young or old, without distinction, either in coals or clothing, at their option. The £4, arising from Jenkinson's gift, before-mentioned, is added to this branch of the charity, by which means, each family receives coals or clothing, to the amount of about 7s.

There is also, belonging to this charity, the sum of £123. 11s 3d stock, in the three per cent. consols, standing in the name of Dr. Lamb, who has lately resigned the vicarage of Banbury, which appears to have arisen from some former accumulations. Dr. Lamb has engaged to transfer this stock into the names of the proper trustees, and to pay over to them such dividends as he may have received and not disposed of.

## PARISH OF HANWELL.

### POOR'S STOCK.

By several entries in the parish register, it appears, that, in the year 1763, two notes of hand of the then late Sir Jonathan Cope, for the principal sum of £13, upon the account of the poor of Hanwell, were deposited in the parish chest by Dr. Thomas Gill, then minister, £3 thereof being given by Mrs. *Butterfield*, and £10 by Dr. *Jenkinson*. The interest of this sum appears to have been distributed amongst the poor, by successive ministers, to the year 1780.

The present rector came to the parish about nine years ago; he found that this interest had not been paid for many years, he, therefore, applied to Mr. Neill, the agent of the Duchess of Dorset, to whom the property in Hanwell, formerly the Cope's, now belongs, and on the 6th February, 1818, he received from him £16. 5s, as arrears for 25 years, due at that time. This sum was distributed to the poor in money, every man and woman 2s 6d, and every child 6d.

Since this time, the interest has been received regularly, about Christmas, and distributed, together with the sacramental money, amongst the most deserving objects; except, that at Christmas, 1823, the funds for the school falling short, this money was applied in aid of that establishment.

## PARISH OF HORLEY.

An account of the school in this parish was given by the Commissioners in their 8th Report, p. 486.

### BRAY'S CHARITY.

On a tombstone in Horley church-yard is inscribed as follows:—

“In memory of John Bray, of this parish, maltster, who departed this life May 1725.

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*John Bray*, gave at his decease, the sum of 10s, for ever, to be distributed yearly, on the feast of St. John the Evangelist, amongst 20 poor persons of the parish of Horley, at the discretion of the churchwardens and overseers of the said parish.

He also gave 5s a year, for ever, to be distributed on the same day, amongst 20 poor persons of the parish of Mollington, at the discretion of the churchwardens and overseers of Mollington, the which said sums are to be paid by the owners of his late dwelling-house, with the appurtenances, in Horley, and one yard or half land lying in Shelsmeers, in the common field of Horley, as may be more fully seen in the court-rolls of this prebend manor of Horley and Hornton."

The 10s for the poor of Horley, is paid by Samuel Arnitt, the owner of the property supposed to be charged therewith, to the churchwardens and overseers, who give it away to 20 poor people on St. John's day.

Sometimes the arrears for three or four years have been received and given away together.

#### SAUL'S CHARITY.

An inscription on a tombstone in Horley church-yard, states, that—

*Thomas Saul*, who died March 6th, 1671, gave to the poor of Horley, six dozen of bread yearly, for ever, to be given at Yellow-well, on St. Thomas's day.

Yellow-well is the name of a close, about a quarter of a mile from Horley, belonging to Samuel Borton, by whom the sum of 6s per annum is paid. This is laid out in bread, which is given away at Yellow-well, to poor widows and boys, on the day above mentioned; the arrears for two or three years being sometimes given away together.

#### CHAPELRY OF HORNTON.

##### SCHOOL.

By indenture, dated 3d March, 1800, between Richard Giles, described as the heir at law of John Giles, heir at law of Richard Giles, heir at law of John Giles; heir at law of Richard Giles, who was co-trustee of the premises thereafter mentioned, with one Richard Banwell, and survived him, of the one part; and the Rev. John Dechair, vicar of Horley cum Hornton; Richard Nichol, and six others, of the other part; reciting, that, by a decree made by commissioners of charitable uses, at Oxford, 29th March, 1665, (reciting, that complaint had been formerly made by the churchwardens and

overseers of Hornton, that one *John Fox*, by his last will, gave to Christopher Tiddenham and William Smith, their heirs, and assigns, one half yard land in Hornton, 'to the use of a schoolmaster, which charitable gift had been misemployed), the commissioners decreed, that the annual rents of the said yard land, formerly let at 50s, but then at £3, with an improvement, if it should be, should for ever thereafter be paid to the schoolmaster of Hornton, according to the will of the donor; and reciting, that the open fields of Hornton, had been inclosed, and the commissioners had made an allotment in lieu of the said half yard land, which was then vested in the said Richard Giles, party thereto; It is witnessed, that the said Richard Giles, bargained, sold, and confirmed, unto the said John Dechair, and others, and their heirs, that plot of ground, containing by estimation, six acres and 13 perches, which, upon the inclosure of Hornton, was allotted in lieu of the said half yard land, upon trust, to receive the rents, and dispose of the same for the means and maintenance of a schoolmaster, to be resident in Hornton, to instruct, in reading, writing, and arithmetic, such number of poor children of Hornton, as ~~they~~ should from time to time think fit; and upon further trust, that when any four of the trustees should die, the survivors should, within three months, choose so many persons residing in the towns and neighbourhood of Horley and Hornton, to be new trustees, as should make up the full number.

By indenture of feoffment, dated 26th March, 1813, Fiennes Sanderson Miller the elder, and the Rev. Charles Sanderson Miller, conveyed the premises to William Holbech, Fiennes Sanderson Miller the younger, Henry Metcalfe Wardle, John Nichol, Robert Hughes, Charles Holbech, William Clarke, and Joseph Gibbs, upon the trusts aforesaid.

The half yard land above mentioned, was, in its open field state, long occupied by a family of the name of Giles, at the rent of 34s; and, after the inclosure, upwards of fifty years ago, the allotment made in respect thereof was occupied by the same family, at the same rent; and latterly, they appear to have claimed it as their own, upon payment of that sum.

Dr. Dechair, who was vicar between 20 and 30 years ago, on examining into the matter, found that Richard Giles held the land only as representative of a former trustee. Proceedings were thereupon instituted against him for the recovery of the trust property, and, after much trouble and expense, the vicar and parishioners succeeded in getting possession; and Richard Giles, as the heir at law of the Giles's, conveyed the property to new trustees by the deed of 1800, above abstracted.

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The land was then let at £29 a year, and, after applying 3s yearly, for the schooling of three or four children, as formerly, the remainder was reserved to pay the law expenses. It is now let to John Watkins, as yearly tenant, at £12. 12s, which is the full value.

The law expenses are now paid off, and, a small portion of the rent being applied in buying books and coals for the school, the rest is paid over to the schoolmaster, who for this salary takes all the children of Hornton who apply, provided they are five years of age. He has between 30 and 40 children.

There is no school-house, or residence, for the master.

## PARISH OF MOLLINGTON.

### CHARITIES OF CALCOTT CHAMBERS, AND OTHERS.

By indenture, dated 6th January 1679, reciting, that there had been theretofore given by Calcott Chambers, esquire, and Fulke Green, gentleman, several sums of money, amounting in the whole to £20.

Red by Anthony Wodhull the elder, the sum of	.... £ 10	- -
By Ambrose Holbech the elder, the sum of	..... 10	- -
By Anthony Wodhull the younger	..... 10	- -
By John Gorstelow, the sum of	..... 5	- -

for the benefit of the poor of Mollington; and reciting, that Thomas Wodhull, and Ambrose Holbech the younger, parties to this indenture, being desirous that the said several sums of money might be employed for the benefit of the said poor, according to the intent of the said donors, had agreed for the purchase of the fee-farm rents thereafter mentioned, for the sum of £79, towards which, they had laid out the several sums above-mentioned; and the said Ambrose Holbech the younger, had disbursed in the said purchase, and the assurances thereof, beyond the amount thereof, the sum of £5. 12s 6d; It is witnessed, that, to the intent that the said Ambrose Holbech might be reimbursed the said sum of £5. 12s 6d; and that afterwards the said poor might have the benefit of the said fee-farm rents, the said Thomas Wodhull, and Ambrose Holbech the younger, conveyed to Anthony Wodhull, the son and heir apparent of the said Thomas Wodhull, William Holbech, the son and heir apparent of the said Ambrose Holbech, and John Gorstelow, son and heir of the late John Gorstelow, their heirs, and assigns, a rent of £1. 6s 8d, payable out of a messuage, and certain lands in Barton, alias Borton, lately paid by John



Clareson, clerk; the rent of 13s 4d, out of certain lands or tenements in Barton, alias Borton, lately paid by Matthew Plant; and the rent of £2. 10s 8d, out of a water mill, and two acres of pasture called the Hames, in Barton and Cropredy, theretofore paid by the said Calcott Chambers, all which fee-farm rents were, amongst others, by several Acts of Parliament, and by letters patent, vested in Francois Lord Hawley, and others, and had been sold by them, and conveyed by deed enrolled, to Joseph Horneby and two others, and were, by indenture, dated 11th December, 27 Charles 2, and enrolled in Chancery, conveyed and assured by the survivors to the said Thomas Wodhull, and Ambrose Holbech, upon trust, in the first place, to reimburse the said Ambrose Holbech the said sum of £5. 12s 6d; and then, upon trust, that the said fee-farm rents should be disposed of amongst the poor of Mollington, in such proportions and sort as the said Thomas Wodhull, Ambrose Holbech, Anthony Wodhull, William Holbech, and John Gorstelow, or any three of them, should appoint; and upon further trust, that when any two of the said trustees should die, the survivors should choose and convey, to the use of themselves, and two or more of the most substantial freeholders, or other inhabitants of Mollington, upon the same trusts.

The two fee-farm rents of £1. 6s 8d, and £2. 10s 8d, some deduction being made for land tax, are collected by one of the churchwardens, viz. from William Chamberlayne, of Bourton (4s being deducted for land-tax) £1. 2s 8d, and from Mrs. Loveday (6s being deducted for land-tax) £2. 4s 8d.

Nothing is received on account of the other fee-farm rent of 13s 4d.

From a paper, dated March 25th, 1678, entitled "Borton Magna—a note of whom, and their lands, that Mr. Holbech's chief rent is payable both at the 25th of March and 29th September," it appears, that the amount of 13s 6d was collected from eight different persons, 1d half yearly, being left for the collector for his pains; and in an old account book it appears, that in 1772, 1773, 1774, the 13s 4d was received as from William Timms, of Borton, in addition to the other fee-farm rents; but no receipt of the 13s 4d is entered afterwards, nor is there any reason to suppose it has been paid since that period.

The sums now received, amounting to £3. 7s 4d, are disposed of with other money as hereafter mentioned.

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CHARITIES OF HUGH HOLBECH AND OTHERS.

Besides the legacies which were laid out in the purchase of the fee-farm rents, above mentioned, it appears, from the accounts, that the following benefactions were given to the poor of Mollington:—

A legacy of £10, by *Hugh Holbech*.

Another legacy of £10, by *Mr. Anthony Wodhull*.

That *Hugh Holbech* also left 6s 8d, per annum, charged upon "Enoch's yard land."

That some person unknown, gave 50s, the interest of which, 2s 6d per annum, was charged upon a yard land belonging, in 1734, to *Joseph Elkington*.

And that *John Bray*, gave 5s yearly, charged upon his dwelling-house, and a yard-land in *Horley*. [See *Bray's Charity in Horley*, p. 101.]

	£.	s.	d.
In respect of the two first mentioned legacies of £10 each; there is paid yearly by <i>William Holbech</i> , esquire, as the interest thereof.....	1	—	—
And, as charged upon some lands in his possession, but upon what lands in particular is unknown, the two yearly sums of.....	—	6	8
And, from <i>William Arnitt</i> , the owner of premises in <i>Horley</i> , supposed to be charged therewith, there is received annually the sum of.....	—	5	—
	£	1	14 8

These sums are also disposed of as hereafter mentioned.

WILLIAM ALCOCK'S CHARITY.

From a paper, in the possession of *William Holbech*, esquire, it appears, that, amongst other legacies, *William Alcock*, by will, the date of which is not stated, gave £100 to the poor of Mollington, and £100 to the poor of *Farnborough*, in *Warwickshire*.

It further appears, from a copy of an opinion given by *Francis Wheeler* and *W. Ainge*, esqrs. dated November 27, 1776, that *Mr. Sparrow* was then seised of two closes in Mollington, called the *West Meadow Closes*, as the heir at law of the surviving trustee of *William Alcock's* will, in trust, to sell and pay certain legacies mentioned in the said will, and in a codicil thereto annexed, which legacies exceeded the value of the estate; and it was advised, that *Mr. Holbech*, being in possession of the estate, should become the purchaser thereof, at the fair value, each legatee making an abatement, in equal proportions; and that the purchase money should, after the payment of expenses, be divided among the legatees. The dividend to be received by each legatee was calculated at 10s 2½d, in the pound, leaving to the poor of each of the places above mentioned £50. 18s 9d.

The West Meadow Closes, devised by William Alcock, are supposed to form part of certain meadows, now belonging to William Holbech, esquire ; and he pays the yearly sum of £2. 10s, on account of the legacy, to the poor of Mollington, which is added to the other charities above mentioned.

The whole amount of these charities, £7. 11s 6d, is laid out by the churchwarden in coal, which is distributed by him amongst the poor of Mollington.

#### AMBROSE HOLBECH'S CHARITY.

*Ambrose Holbech*, of Mollington, by will, dated 9th March, 1700, gave £50, to be laid out in the purchase of lands of inheritance, by his executor, and directed, that the rents and profits thereof should, at the end of every two years, be disposed of in putting forth a poor child of Mollington, an apprentice, with the consent of his son Ambrose, or such issue male of his family, to whom his house and lands at Mollington should for the time being belong.

The sum above bequeathed was never laid out in land. From the accounts kept by the late William Holbech, esq. it appears, that, at the time of his death in 1812, there was a balance of £23 in his hands belonging to the charity, and that the principal sum was increased from £50 to £100, by accumulation of interest ; the sum of £100 was, at the time of our enquiry (April 1824), in the hands of the present William Holbech, esq., who has allowed interest, formerly at five, and latterly at four and a half, per cent. Since 1813, there has been advanced only one sum of £20, as a premium with an apprentice, no other boy having been found to be bound out ; and there was, at the time of our enquiry, a balance in hand of £59, which it was intended to place, together with the principal sum of £100, in a savings' bank, to be ready when any apprentice should be found.

The accounts of this charity have been regularly kept by the successive owners of the Mollington estate, from the year 1700.

#### CHURCH LAND.

At the time of the inclosure of Mollington, in 1796, an allotment of land, containing rather less than an acre, was set out for the repairs of the church, in lieu of sundry small pieces, before lying in the open field, the rents of which had been applied for the same purpose, as far back as could be remembered.

This land is now let to Mary Denzey, as yearly tenant, at two guineas a year, it has been occupied at the same rent over

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since the inclosure, the tenant having engaged to fence it. The land is worth now about three guineas a year. The rent is carried to the churchwardens' account.

## PARISH OF WROXTON,

### CHURCH LAND.

There is an allotment, consisting of about eight acres of arable land, in Wroxton Field, which was set out at the time of the inclosure, about twenty years ago, for the repairs of the church, in lieu of some land in the open field, the rent of which was applied to the same purpose.

This land is let to John Taylor, of Balscott, as yearly tenant, at £24 a year, which is a high rent.

This is carried to the churchwardens' account, and supplies the place of a church rate. The accounts are made up every Easter, and the balance carried forward. There is a balance in hand, and some rent due from the tenant, which it is intended to apply, in the course of this year, in painting the pews of the church, and it is calculated that the expense that will be incurred thereby will take up this money. The church is in excellent repair.

## CHAPELRY OF BALSCOTT.

### CHAPEL LAND.

There is in the chapelry of Balscott, which is in the parish of Wroxton, some land, containing 2A, 2R. 1P., which was set out to the chapelwardens upon the inclosure of the open fields in Balscott, in 1804, in lieu of some lands, the rents of which had been applied, before the inclosure, to the repairs of the chapel. It is not known from whence this land was originally derived.

The allotment is let to John Garner, at £8. 12s; this is a full rent.

The chapel has lately been put into complete repair, new pewed, and a gallery erected; and a burial ground has been added, by the dean and chapter of Christ church, and Lord Guildford, their lessee, which has been consecrated. All the expenses thus incurred have been defrayed out of the rent of the chapel allotment, with the aid of a rate. There is now due about £20 to the chapelwarden on this account, which will be defrayed out of the rent.

# HUNDRED OF BOLLINGTON.

## PARISH OF ELSFIELD.

### BRETT'S CHARITY.

There is an entry in the parish register, made in 1796, entitled, "An account of the Charity cottage at Marston, belonging to the poor of Elsfield and Marston," in which it is stated, that, in consequence of great abuses prevailing with respect to the rent not being paid, and not being properly distributed among the poor, Mr. Kett, curate of Elsfield, together with the churchwardens, caused John Piclesy, a trustee of the said cottage, to surrender the trust, and to give up a deed, or memorandum, into the hands of James Morrell, esquire. There then follows, what purports to be a copy thereof, which is to the following effect:—

A surrender, dated 17th January 1650, made by Richard Parne the elder, one of the customary tenants of the manor of Headington, of a messuage called Liverance, with a yard, backside, orchard, and close of pasture, thereto belonging, in the town of Marston, to John Willmot, and Francis Crossfield, to the use of John Hawkes and Michael Wright, their heirs, and assigns, according to the custom of the manor; and it is witnessed, that the surrender was made in trust, that they should pay, out of the rents, to the overseers of the poor of Elsfield, 30s, at Easter, yearly, and to the overseers of the poor of Marston, 10s, yearly, at the same time, to be distributed yearly to the poor of the said parishes, and the surplusage of the said rents to the overseers of the town of Elsfield, to be distributed to the poor of the said town.

To this, it is added, that John Hawkes and Michael Wright, to a paper or parchment set their hands, that this surrender was given in their names, in trust, by the appointment of Mrs. Mary Brett, wife of Henry Brett, esquire.

Then follows an acknowledgment, purporting to be signed by Michael Wright, whereby, reciting the surrender, he acknowledged that the surrender was taken, in trust, by the appointment and direction of Mary Brett, of Elsfield, wife of Henry Brett, esquire, who paid the purchase for the said messuage and lands.

In 1796, these premises were surrendered to John Butler, now living, and Thomas White, since deceased, upon whose admissions the trusts were declared, in the same terms as in the surrender above abstracted.

The premises consist of a good cottage, with a garden, containing about an acre, let to William Copus, by lease, dated 2d October, 1819, for the term of 21 years, from Michaelmas preceeding, at the yearly rent of £10, the lessee covenanting to keep the premises in repair. It was afterwards agreed to take £9. 15s, if the tenant paid his rent regularly, and that is now considered as the rent. This is the full value.

About the year 1797, the cottage was burnt down, and rebuilt at the expense of about £30. In 1819, the cottage having been rebuilt upon the old foundation, in a very slight manner, it was near falling down, and the parish was obliged to rebuild it again, and the cost was about £65.

A subscription was raised towards paying these several sums, and the remainder has been paid out of the rents. The estate is now out of debt.

Of the rent, the sum of 10s is paid yearly to the overseer of Marston. After deducting the further sum of 6d for the lord's rent, and 2s 6d for insurance, the rest of the rent has, in former years, been distributed to the poor of Elsfield, in coals. While the expenses of the rebuilding have been paying off, a subscription has been raised, which has been disposed of in buying coals, and delivering them to the poor at a cheap rate; £4 or £5 a year has been thus disposed of; and, as the estate is now clear, it is intended to dispose of the rent in future in the same manner.

## HUNDRED OF CHADLINGTON.

### PARISH OF CHURCHILL.

#### CHARITIES OF ANNE WALTER AND OTHERS.

This parish has been possessed for many years of a sum of £120, secured on mortgage of the tolls of the turnpike roads from Burford to Banbury, from Burford to Stowe, and from Swerford Gate to Ayshoe, as appears by two instruments, under seal, numbered 15 and 16, bearing date, 25th March, 1774, one being for £70, and the other for £50, with interest at 4½ per cent.

We find nothing of the origin of this money among the parish documents, but the returns of 1786 attribute it to the following donors; viz.—

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	£.	s.	d.
Anne Walter.....	100	—	—
Mr. Wansoll .....	10	—	—
Thomas Brookes, in 1764 .....	5	—	—
The parish .....1778 .....	5	—	—
£.	120	—	—

The interest, amounting annually to £5. 8s, is regularly paid, and is distributed at Christmas, with the other monies after mentioned (making together a fund of £14. 9s 7½d), amongst the most needy and deserving poor of the parish, in sums varying from 1s to 7s.

### WILLIAM HARVEY'S CHARITY.

*William Harvey*, of Kingham, by will, dated 9th March, 1803, gave to the minister and churchwardens of the parish church of Churchill, for the time being, £100, upon trust, to divide the dividends and proceeds thereof, unto and amongst the poor inhabitants of the parish of Churchill, yearly, at Christmas, in such manner, and to such and so many of them, as to the minister and churchwardens should seem most advisable.

This legacy was reduced, by the duty of eight per cent, to the sum of £92, which has hitherto remained in the hands of Benjamin Davis, the executor, on the security of his promissory note, at five per cent interest. The interest, amounting to £4. 12s per annum, is distributed at Christmas, in the manner already mentioned.

### JOSEPH HARVEY'S CHARITY.

*Joseph Harvey*, by will, proved 28th May, 1812, bequeathed £100, in the same manner, and for the same purpose, as the legacy bequeathed by his brother, the above named William Harvey,

The legacy of Joseph Harvey was reduced, by the duty £10 per cent, and incidental expenses, to the sum of £89. 13s, which was paid to Mr. Isaac Baylis, one of the then churchwardens, and has since continued in his hands, on the security of his promissory note, at five per cent interest. This interest, amounting to the annual sum of £4. 9s 7½d is distributed at Christmas, as above mentioned.

### SARSDEN AND CHURCHILL SCHOOL:

[See the particulars in the Report of the Charities of Saraden, p. 118.]

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## PARISH OF HOOK NORTON.

### DUKE OF SUFFOLK'S CHARITY.

By deed poll, dated 12th May, 13th Henry 8th (1522), Charles Duke of Suffolk, gave and granted to Thomas Newman, and 11 others, a messuage, or cottage, commonly called the Garrett, with a garden adjoining, in Hook Norton, situate in a certain street, called the High-street, between the common way leading from the said street to the manor house, there called the Court-place, on the east part of the said messuage, and the church-yard of Hook Norton, on the west; to hold to the said Thomas Newman and others, their heirs, and assigns, of the chief lord of the fee, to the use and common advantage of all the tenants, within his manor of Hook Norton, then being, or which should thereafter inhabit there, yielding to him and his heirs yearly, 5s, by two payments, at Easter and Michaelmas, with power of distress in case the same should be in arrear.

By indenture, dated 16th October, 23d Charles 2d, (1671), George Chamberlain, George Carey, and Ambrose Holbech, in consideration of the sum of £5, granted, bargained, and sold, to Richard Wyton, and Thomas Wilkins, the yearly rent of 5s, issuing out of the messuage called the Garrett, which was reserved upon a grant, theretofore made of the same, by Charles Duke of Suffolk, and had been since, by an Act of the then Parliament, conveyed unto the said grantors, and their heirs, and assigns; and for the same consideration, they further granted, enfeoffed, and confirmed, to the said Wyton and Wilkins, their heirs, and assigns, all that little house used as a fuel house or hovel, standing over-against the said messuage; to hold the same rent, little house, and premises, to the use of the grantees, and their heirs.

By endorsement, on the said deed, it is stated, that it was agreed between the said parties, that the said yearly rent and premises were granted to Wyton and Wilkins, and their heirs, for the same trusts as the messuage or cottage, granted by the Duke of Suffolk.

By indenture, dated 19th March, 1802, between William Warmington, William Osborne, Henry Gough, and Samuel Young, of the one part; and William Gilkes, Bishop Gibbs, and ten others, of the other part; reciting the grant of Charles Duke of Suffolk, and further reciting, that the premises had been conveyed by several trust deeds, from time to time, to new feoffees; and that the feoffees for the time being, had, at certain times theretofore, leased the premises, which had been divided into several tenements, to



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certain persons, for 1,000 years, for the sum of £140; and that the landholders of such lands, within the manor of Hook Norton, as formerly belonged to the Duke of Suffolk, had chosen the said parties of the second part to be trustees for the said sum of £140; it is witnessed, that the said parties of the first part did thereby transfer to the said parties of the second part, and their assigns, the said sum of £140, to hold to them in trust, for the use and common advantage of all such landholders and tenants as in the said grant of the said duke are mentioned.

We have not been able to ascertain the particulars of all the leases which this deed recites to have been granted; but the sum of £140, mentioned as the consideration of those leases, appears from the accounts to have arisen from the several following payments, viz.—

1784, December 30.—Received from George Warmington, "for the old house".....	£.	s.	d.
	25	-	-
1785, December 6.—For the two houses purchased by Elizabeth Hall and John Webb.....	30	19	-
1787, January 15.—From John Phipps, for Thomas Scarbrooke's house.....	45	-	-
1791, ..... From Thomas Osborne, "for the house up the lane".....	35	-	-
From Richard Phipps, "for a house".....	5	10	-
	£.	141	9 -

Of the £140, which was thus transferred to the new trustees, the sum of £100 is now in the hands of the executor of the late Mr. Bishop Gibbs, on the security of his promissory note, at 4½ per cent. interest; and the remaining £40 is in the hands of William Gilkes, at the like rate of interest.

On reference to the accounts, which are found extant from the year 1754, it appears, that, at that period, the rents of the several premises amounted in the whole to about £8. 17s., of which £3 was for several years paid to a schoolmaster for teaching several poor children. The rest of the rents appears to have been generally exhausted in repairs. Since the granting of the leases, the interest of the money has been regularly distributed once a year among the poor freehold tenants of that part of the manor of Hook Norton which is known by the name of Down's holding.

### THE BISHOP OF OXFORD'S ANNUITY.

For the last 30 or 35 years, an annual sum of £11. 10s. has been received by the churchwardens from the lessees of the Bishop of Oxford, who is impropriator of Hook Norton, of which sum, two guineas have been appropriated to the purpose of schooling; eight guineas to the purchase of coals and

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corn for the poor; and £1 for furnishing bell ropes annually for the church.

For some time, the two guineas for schooling were paid to the master of a day school, which used to be kept in a building adjoining the church, used also as a vestry room. For the last 16 or 17 years, that school having been discontinued, the two guineas have been paid in aid of a fund raised by subscription for a Sunday school, which is taught in the same building.

CALCOTT'S CHARITY.

The particulars of this charity have been already given in our Report of the Charities of Cropredy. (*ante* p. 48.)

The sum of 15s, out account of this charity, is annually received from Mrs. Loveday, of Williamscoth, of which, 10s is retained by the minister, for a sermon, which is always preached the day after Christmas day; and 5s is distributed, with the sacrament money, among the poor of the parish.

HOBBS'S CHARITY.

The sum of £5, bequeathed to this parish by *William Hobbs*, in the year 1810, as stated in our account of the charities of Great Rollewright, next following, is at present in the hands of the Reverend George Saunder, the minister, at five per cent interest. This interest is applied towards the support of a Sunday school in the parish.

PARISH OF GREAT ROLLEWRIGHT.

POOR'S ESTATE.

By indenture, dated 4th March, 1736, between Francis George and Nathaniel Endak, of the one part, and William Shepherd, esquire, Thomas Foxley, clerk, rector, and four others, of the other part; reciting; that *John Prew* and *John Baughan*, by deed, dated 10th December, in the reign of King Henry VIII, had given and granted two messuages, and two yard lands, with the appurtenances in Great Rollewright, to certain feoffees, and their heirs, in trust, to permit the churchwardens of Great Rollewright to receive the rents, to be bestowed in deeds of charity, for the help and relief of poor people, within the town of Great Rollewright, at the discretion of the said feoffees, and the survivors of them, and by the major part of the inhabitants of Great Rollewright, for the time being; and that the churchwardens yearly, at the church account there, should make a true account to the

feoffees, and the major part of the said inhabitants, how, and to whom, the profits of the said lands were employed; and reciting, that, by virtue of a commission of charitable uses, dated 17th June, 10 Charles I; It was, amongst other things, decreed, by the commissioners, that Richard Rollewright, otherwise Fuller, and three others, there named, surviving feoffees of the premises, should, before the 29th September, following the date of the said decree, enfeoff William Shepherd, and five others, all of Great Rollewright, and their heirs, of and in the said premises, to the intent and purpose, that they should permit the rents to be received by the overseers of the poor of Great Rollewright, to be employed to the best advantage and benefit of the poor people there; and that an account thereof should be made by the overseers, at their church account, to be allowed by the justices of the peace adjoining; and that when there should be only three of the said feoffees living, the said three survivors should enfeoff two other inhabitants of Great Rollewright, who should presently after re-enfeoff the said three surviving feoffees, and three more of the inhabitants of Great Rollewright; and reciting, that, in pursuance of the said decree, the said premises were conveyed to the said feoffees, and their heirs; and that, by divers other conveyances, therein particularly set forth, the premises were then vested in Francis George and Nathaniel Endall, and their heirs, to the intent that they should re-enfeoff the said William Shepherd, who, with two others, were the three surviving feoffees, and also three other persons therein named, and their heirs; it is witnessed, that the said George and Endall, in pursuance of the trust reposed in them, thereby granted, aliened, enfeoffed, and confirmed, unto the said William Shepherd, and five others, and their heirs, and assigns, the premises before mentioned, to the intent that the same might, from time to time, be let at the best improved value, and the rents and profits be yearly bestowed for the best advantage and benefit of the poor people of Great Rollewright for the time being, according to the tenor and true meaning of the first recited indenture and decree, and subject to the account thereby required.

By indenture, dated 24th June 1807, between the Rev. Joshua Newby, of the first part, George Bayley, of the second part, Thomas Hall, the said Joshua Newby, John Berry, Robert Harbridge, Thomas Hughes, and William Banglian, of the third part; reciting the grant by John Prew and John Baughan, and the decree of 17th June, 10 Charles I.; and that, by virtue of several mesne conveyances, the premises had become vested in John Carter Pollard, esquire,

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## CHARITIES AT GREAT ROLLEWRIGHT. 115

and others, upon the trusts before named; and also reciting, that the commissioners, appointed by an Act of Parliament passed in the 15th George III. for dividing and enclosing the open fields of Great Rollewright, by their award, dated 17th April 1776, had allotted to the then surviving feepees, in lieu of the two yard lands, commons, and premises, thereto belonging, the two several plots of land and premises, after mentioned; and that, by indentures of lease and release, the release dated 18th October, 1781, the inheritance in the said messuages, plots of land, and premises, had become vested in the said John Carter Pollard; Joshua Newby, and others, in trust as aforesaid; and reciting, that the said premises were then vested in the said Joshua Newby, and his heirs, by survivorship; it was witnessed, that, in pursuance of an order of vestry, the said Joshua Newby did thereby grant, release, and confirm, to the said George Bayley, his heirs, and assigns, all those two messuages, or tenements, and premises, with the appurtenances, situate at Great Rollewright, then in the occupation of the overseers of the poor; and also, all that plot of ground and premises, with the appurtenances, situate in the parish of Great Rollewright, containing, by statute measure, 17A. 1R. 29P.; and also, all that other plot of ground, with the appurtenances, situate in the said parish, containing, by statute measure, 56A. 2R. 39P.; to hold the said premises to the said George Bayley, his heirs, and assigns, to the use of the said parties of the third part, their heirs, and assigns, for ever, to the intent, that the said hereditaments and premises might be by them and their heirs, from time to time, for ever, let for the best improved yearly rent, and that the whole of the rents might be bestowed in deeds of charity, for the help and relief of the poor people, within the town of Great Rollewright, at the direction of the said trustees and their heirs, and of the major part of the inhabitants of Great Rollewright, and according to the tenor of the said original grant and decree, and subject to the directions therein respectively contained.

Of the two allotments, comprised in the last abstracted indenture, that containing 56A. 2R. 39P. is now in the occupation of Elias Harris, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £70, which is its full value.

This rent, after a payment of £2. 6s 8d for land-tax, 14s for a chief rent, and £2 or £3 on the average for repairs, has generally been carried to the overseers' account, and from this account the poor parishioners are assisted, from time to time, with money to pay their rents. Stocks of coals are also pur-

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chased, which are afterwards sold to the poor at reduced prices; and cloth, which is distributed among them gratis; and flax, which is given out to be spun and woven.

The allotment of 17 A. 1 R. 29 P. lies undivided from another allotment of about 10 acres, awarded, under the same Inclosure Act, to the rector, churchwardens, and overseers, in trust, for the poor, "in lieu of, and compensation for, their right or custom of cutting furze and bushes on Rollewright & Heath and Westfield Leys."

These two allotments are partly covered with furze, which the poor of the parish enjoy the privilege of cutting. They also produce herbage, which is annually let by the parish officers, at their Easter meeting, to the highest bidder. The rent obtained has been from £7 to £14.

This rent has been always laid out at the ensuing Christmas in the purchase of coals, which have been distributed gratis among the poor, in quantities proportioned to the size of their respective families.

The two messuages have, by alterations and additions, from time to time, been converted into eleven several tenements, which are inhabited, rent free, by poor persons put in by the parish officers.

We suggested to the rector and parish officers, the propriety of keeping the accounts of this charity distinct from the general accounts of the parish, and of confining the benefit to the most needy and deserving poor; and we have been since apprized, that, at a vestry held on Monday, 23d March, it was resolved:—

1st. That the accounts of the charity farm belonging to the said parish, be in future kept distinct from those of the poor-rates.

2d. That the produce thereof be applied to the following purposes, viz. to the repairs of the cottages belonging to the farm, to the payment of rents, to the selling of coals at a reduced price, and to the purchasing of clothes for young persons, on their first going out to service.

3d. That, in the distribution of the said charity, due attention be had to the merits of the persons to be benefited thereby.

4th. That a book be provided, for the entry of all receipts and payments for the charity, and that it be yearly produced at the Easter meeting, for the inspection of the parish.

### HOBBS'S CHARITY.

*William Hobbs, of Hook Norton, by will, dated 8th May, Hundred of Chadlington.*

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1806, desired to be buried in the church-yard of Great Rollewright, and to have a tomb placed over his grave, with an inscription, containing an extract of the charities given by his will; and he also desired that an extract of each of his charities should be placed in the parish churches of Great Rollewright, Hook Norton, and Swerford, in order to perpetuate the memory thereof; and he ordered, that the expenses of erecting his tomb, and of the inscription thereon, and of the placing the extracts in the said churches, should be first fully paid and satisfied; and he thereby gave the sum of £20 to the minister and churchwardens of Great Rollewright, and their successors, upon trust, to lay out the same in the public funds, and apply the dividends in the education of poor boys of the parish of Great Rollewright, on Sunday, whose parents should be legal inhabitants, and of the Protestant reformed religion.

The testator made a similar bequest, and with the like provisions, to each of the parishes of Hook Norton and Swerford.

By a codicil to his said will, dated 18th April, 1810, he revoked the said several bequests, and gave to the respective ministers and churchwardens of the said several parishes, the sum of £5 each, to be applied upon the said trusts.

These legacies were all duly paid by the executor. That to the parish of Great Rollewright was lodged for sometime in the bank of Mr. Matthews, of Chipping Norton, but a short time before the failure of that bank it was taken out, and returned for safe custody to the executor, Thomas Hughes, in whose hands it has since remained without producing any interest. In consequence of our suggestion, we were assured it should be invested without delay in a savings' bank.

### HALL'S CHARITY.

The returns of 1786 state, that *Humphry Hall*, by will, (no date mentioned), left a rent-charge of 6s, to be distributed to poor church members in bread, which appears to have been then paid by Thomas Bradley Paget.

This payment has not been made for the last 12 or 13 years, but, having communicated with the agent of the present owner of the land charged, Mr. Bradley Paget, we trust that measures will be taken for reviving the payment, and that it will be duly continued in future.

## PARISH OF SALFORD.

## POOR'S STOCK.

This stock consisted of a sum of £10, which was lent about 40 years ago to John Draper, on bond. Draper died in 1790, but the interest continued to be paid after his death by his widow, and Richard Cooke, whom she subsequently married. About ten years ago Cooke discontinued the payment, saying, that he was not liable to it; and it seems difficult, under the circumstances of the case, to establish any claim against him, or indeed any other person, for the recovery of this money.

There seems to have been considerable remissness on the part of the churchwardens, in not having applied for settlement of this debt at the time of Draper's death.

## PARISH OF SARSDEN.

## SARSDEN AND CHURCHILL SCHOOL.

*Anne Walter*, daughter of Sir William Walter, baronet, by will, dated 20th July, 1705, gave £600, to be laid out by her executor in the purchase of lands of inheritance, to be settled in such manner that the yearly profits should be applied for the maintenance and education of poor girls under the age of 20 years, educated in the doctrine of the Church of England, and born in the parishes of Sarsden and Churchill; and when the said girls should come to the age of 20 years, and be capable of being confirmed, they should be taken to the bishop for that purpose, and upon their confirmation, each girl should receive £10, and to the minister who should take them to be confirmed, 20s, out of the rents of the lands so to be purchased; but that such of the girls as should refuse to be confirmed, should not have the £10; and she directed, that the deeds and writings of such lands should be kept by the minister of Sarsden, copies being left with the minister of Churchill: And she directed, that the lands to be purchased, should be let, from time to time, at the highest value, and that the churchwardens of the said parishes should not keep or manage the same with their own hands.

By indentures of lease and release, dated 28th and 29th February, 1711, between Rowland Lacey, son and heir of Sir Rowland and Susanna his wife, of the first part; Thomas Dowsett, Henry Allen, Robert Dowsett, and William Diston, of the second part; and Sir John Walter, and seven others,

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of the third part; reciting the will of Anne Walter, as above abstracted; and reciting, that, in a cause in the Court of Chancery, between the Attorney General at the relation of John Griffin, clerk, plaintiff, and William Hook and Mary his wife, executrix of the said Anne, defendants; it was ordered, that the said £600 should be brought into court, and laid out in the purchase of lands, to be approved by the Master, and conveyed to such trustees as he should appoint; and, for that purpose, the minister and churchwardens of Sarsden and Churchill were to nominate four persons, to be trustees of the said charity, and that they, or the major part of them, should elect poor girls equally, out of the said parishes, to be maintained and educated, and when they should have attained the age of 20 years, the ministers of Churchill and Sarsden should alternately present them to the bishop to be confirmed, each girl so confirmed receiving £10, and the minister 20s; and if there should be more qualified to be confirmed than the produce of the said £600 would amount to pay £10 a piece to, that the trustees should elect which of the girls should be confirmed: and that, when five of the trustees should die, the survivors should elect others to make up the number of eight; and reciting further, that certain persons had been appointed by the respective ministers and churchwardens of Sarsden and Churchill to be trustees, of whom the Master had approved; and that the said trustees had agreed for the purchase of the land after-mentioned, whereof also the Master had approved, and, to that end, had paid to the trustees the sum of £600, and £71. 4s as interest; it is witnessed, that, in pursuance of the said decree, and in consideration of the sum of £500 paid by the trustees, parties of the third part, to the said Henry Allen and Robert Dowsett, and £100 paid to the said William Diston, by the direction and appointment of the said Rowland Lacey, the said parties of the first and second part, granted, bargained, sold, and confirmed, to the parties of the third part, all that close in Shipton-under-Wychwood, called the House Ground, containing 6A. 2R. 2P.; also, a close, called the Gogmire Ground, containing 7A. 2R. 3P.; the Furzy Ground, containing 8A. 3R. 30P.; all in the said parish, and then or late parcel of a tenement or farm, then called Coulstone Farm; to hold the same to them and their heirs, upon the trusts of the said will and decree.

By indenture, dated 19th November, 1715, reciting the will of Ann Walter, and the decree, the appointment of trustees, and the purchase above-mentioned, Sir John Walter, of Sarsden, granted to the said trustees, for the better ena-



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bling them to erect a schoolhouse, a piece of ground in Churchill, adjoining the highway, leading towards Sarsden, containing, in length 180 feet, and in breadth at the north end 37 feet, in trust, to erect a schoolhouse thereon, to be employed for teaching the said poor girls.

Upon the land, thus given by Sir John Walter, a schoolhouse was duly erected, at an expense, as appears from the accounts, of more than £130. This house comprises, a room for the school, and convenient apartments for the residence of the mistress, who has also the benefit of a garden, belonging to it.

The premises purchased by the deeds of 1711 are at present in the occupation of Benjamin Prickett, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £52. 10s, which appears to be the fair value. The land-tax was redeemed some time ago, at the price of £35.

A salary of twenty guineas per annum is paid to the mistress, and about £20 per annum is applied to the purchase of clothing for the scholars. The rest of the rent is expended in books and repairs.

There are always 24 girls in the school, who are admitted at the age of from seven to nine, and are allowed to remain four years. They are taught reading, writing, and accounts, with knitting and needle-work, and are supplied with gowns, bonnets, and other articles of clothing. They are also supplied with Bibles and Prayer-books, on leaving school, and are confirmed, when of a proper age; but the income does not appear to have ever sufficed to afford the payment on such occasions of the £10, directed by the testatrix to be given to them.

### Poor's Stock.

We have been unable to obtain any other account of this stock than what is contained in a declaration of trust, dated the 16th August, 1794, which recites, that, by the orders of a vestry, held at Sarsden the 16th March preceding, 100, belonging to the poor of Sarsden, (but whence derived is not stated) was ordered to be paid into the hands of James Haughton Langston, esq. deceased, by Denis Rolle, esq.; that this payment being accordingly made, the further sum of £6. 1s 10d was added by the said James Haughton Langston, esq. in order to purchase £125, 4 per cents.

The stock, thus purchased, now stands in the name of J. H. Langston, esq., the Rev. Charles Barter (rector), Robert Atkins and John Prescott (churchwardens), by whom the dividends, amounting annually to £5, are distributed at Christmas, among the poor, in sums varying from one to five shillings.

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## PARISH OF SWERFORD.

### TRAVELL'S CHARITY.

The following is an extract from the parish register of Swerford: viz.—

“*John Travell*, esq. left in his will 10s a year, to be distributed at Swerford Church, by the minister, churchwardens, and overseers, on Saint Thomas's-day, to ten poor housekeepers of the parish of Swerford, to each 1s, and subjected the close he bought of William Gibbard, to the payment of that charity, leaving it in trust to Ralph Brideoak, fellow of New College, as appears by indenture, enrolled in Chancery, 9 May, 1738.”

“*John Travell*, esq. pays yearly 5s, which are distributed to five poor persons, to each 1s, as above. This charity is due upon the Cradle, in Hook Nortonfield, late James Rouse, of Swerford.”

“*Mr. John Hall*, of Wigginton, pays likewise 5s yearly, which are distributed as *Mr. Travell's*.”

“This charity is due upon the Cradle, in Hook Nortonfield, adjoining to *Mr. Travell's*.”

“These two last benefactions were given by the same persons.”—(Dated December 21, 1745.)

Then follows a memorandum of the distribution, on 21st December, 1745, of *Mr. Travell's* 10s, and of the two other sums of 5s each; and on the next page is continued a note of the distribution for several years, down to 1797.

These several annuities are understood to be comprised in an annual payment of 20s, which is now received from the Rev. W. M. Whalley, as the owner of an estate in the parishes of Swerford and Hook Norton, formerly *Travell's*.

The 20s are distributed on Saint Thomas's day, to 20 poor persons of the parish, in sums of 1s each.

### HOBBS'S CHARITY.

*William Hobbs*, by a codicil to his will, dated the 18th April, 1810, gave to the minister and churchwardens, £5, in trust, to pay the interest, for ever, for the education of poor boys, on the Sabbath-day.

This money was invested in the Banbury Savings' bank, in the name of the Reverend Nicholas Earle, late vicar of Swerford. The interest, amounting to 4s per annum, is applied in aid of a Sunday School, kept in the parish.

### EASTER BREAD.

The rector supplies a small loaf, for every house in the

parish, on Easter Sunday, which is given after evening service.

It is understood, that this is given on account of a bushel of wheat, which is payable out of a field, called Mill Close, part of the glebe.

Each house, whether inhabited by rich or poor, receives a loaf.

## HUNDRED OF PLOUGHTON.

### PARISH OF BICESTER.

#### WALKER'S CHARITY

By indenture, dated 30th October, 1811, reciting, that *John Walker*, of Hackney, in the county of Middlesex, had, in his life-time, expressed his intention of settling the sum of £1,000, three per cent consols, in trust, that the proceeds should be applied and appropriated towards the establishment, support, and maintenance, of a charity school, and two Sunday schools, for the education of poor children, belonging to, or residing within the parish of Bicester, to which he had subscribed in his life-time; and further reciting, that he had made no mention of the said schools in his will; but that his son *William Walker* was well satisfied that it was the intention of his father to have given the said sum for the purposes aforesaid; the said *William Walker*, in order to carry the intentions of his father into execution, covenanted with *Sir Henry Watkin Dashwood, bart.*, *John Coker, esq.*, *Thomas Davis the elder*, *John Kirby*, *George Osmond*, *Richard Smith*, *Thomas Davis the younger*, *John Blake Kirby*, and *Thomas Tubb*, of Bicester, surviving feoffees, in trust, of certain lands and tenements, in Bicester and elsewhere, to transfer the said sum of £1,000, three per cent consols, into the names of the said *Sir Henry Watkin Dashwood* and others, or two or more of them; and it was agreed and declared, by the parties to this indenture, that such transfer should be upon the trusts thereafter mentioned, viz.—

That the said trustees should apply £16 per annum towards the supporting, maintaining, and promoting, of a charity school, within the said parish of Bicester, for the educating and clothing poor boys, born in the said parish, or in some of the adjacent parishes, in the principles of the

church of England, and to read, write, and cast accounts, and say their catechism; and for the supplying of the said school with an able and fit schoolmaster; and for the placing proper poor children in the said school, and for the visiting of the said schoolmaster, and the preventing and punishing neglects and misdemeanors in the said schoolmaster and scholars; and it was provided, that the said trustees, and their successors, should have the full management of the said school, and the poor children and schoolmaster, who should be elected by them; and that the said schoolmaster should not receive any money or other presents from the said children or their parents; but that he should be at liberty to take any other scholars, upon such terms as he should think fit; and it was further directed, that the said children should be elected out of the natives, or, at least, out of the inhabitants of the said parish; that they should not be admitted under the age of seven years, nor continue above the age of 14; that the trustees should meet annually, at the school-house, on Tuesday in Easter week, and examine into the conduct of the schoolmaster and children; and should make such orders as to them should seem meet, for the better government of the said school; and that they should have power to remove or suspend the master or children for misconduct; that a large book should be kept, in which the names of the children who should enter or leave the school, and the minutes of the proceedings, and orders of the trustees, should be entered. And it was further agreed, that £7 per annum should be applied towards the supporting and maintaining of a Sunday school, in the said parish; for the educating such poor children as aforesaid, in the principles of the church of England; and in reading, writing, casting accounts, and their catechism; and that the like sum of £7, being the residue of the said dividends, should be applied in supporting and maintaining the Sunday school, managed and conducted by the dissenting congregation, at the meeting-house, in Water-lane, Bicester; and if either, or both the said Sunday schools, should thereafter fail, that the respective sums, appropriated to their support, should be transferred and paid in aid of the said charity school, in addition to the said £16. And it was further agreed, that the said feoffees should be, and were thereby appointed, trustees of this charity for ever.

This stock now stands in the names of Richard Smith, and others. The dividends are received by Mr. Tubb, and paid over by him, on account of the feoffees of the lands, hereafter mentioned, to the different persons who respectively have the

management of the funds of the charity school, and the two Sunday schools.

The charity school was established in Bicester many years before the date of this donation. It used to be supported entirely by voluntary contributions, and the master and boys (no girls being admitted) were appointed by the subscribers; the boys have been clothed once in two or three years, accordingly as the funds have been sufficient for the purpose. The school is now carried on in the same manner, and is supported by the payment of £16, out of the dividends of the above-mentioned stock, and an annual sum, generally of rather greater amount, raised by voluntary subscription, and collections after occasional sermons. Thirty boys are always selected from the parish of Bicester, and, as a vacancy occurs, it is filled up by the master, from a list approved by the trustees, the boys being taken in the order in which their names stand.

The terms of the deed, by which the donation of Mr. Walker was settled, seem to have been nearly forgotten at the time of our enquiry. Children had been appointed under the age prescribed, and the meeting of the trustees on Easter Tuesday had not taken place for some time. Notice has been given to the schoolmaster, that the feoffees will, in future, adhere strictly to the regulations prescribed by that deed. The school, however, has not been neglected; Mr. Richard Smith, one of the feoffees, having constantly made enquiries as to the conduct of the boys at the school, and having always insisted upon their attending regularly at church, and upon their appearing clean, and behaving decently there.

The present master, who was appointed before the death of Mr. John Walker, receives a salary of £25, to which it has lately been reduced, from £30. When his salary was fixed, it was agreed that he should not take more than 30 boys, the school-room being incapable of holding a larger number.

The present school-room is part of a building that belongs either to the town or to the bailiwick. It appears that a part of the church was formerly used as a school, but this practice has been discontinued for many years.

Out of the dividends of the £1,000 stock, there is also paid £7 yearly, to a Sunday school of the church of England, which is under the management of the curate, and the inhabitants who subscribe to the support of it.

The remaining £7 is paid to a Dissenters' Sunday school.

#### FEOFFEES' LANDS.

By an inquisition, taken at Bicester, under a commission of *Hundred of Ploughley*.

charitable uses, 6th April, 41 Elizabeth, it was found, that there was, before that time, a feoffment made, or an estate in fee sufficiently executed to certain persons, and their heirs, of certain lands and tenements, with their appurtenances, in the towns and fields of Bicester, Bucknall, Wendlebury, Souldern near Woodstock, and Stretton, in the county of Oxford, sometime the inheritance of one John Wykyns, alias Wiggins, and also of six tenements, with the appurtenances, in Wallingford, in the county of Bucks, some time also the inheritance of the said John Wykyns; and also of two messuages, and one acre of land, with the appurtenances, in Brackley, in the county of Northampton, some time also the inheritance of the said John Wykyns; and also, that there was a feoffment, executed to certain persons, and their heirs, of one messuage, 10 acres of land, four acres of meadow, and six acres of pasture, with their appurtenances, in East Perry, alias Pottersperry, in the said county of Northampton, some time the inheritance of one Henry Moore, deceased, which feoffments, it was found, were made in trust, that the profits of the said lands should be employed towards the relief of the poor inhabitants within the said town of Bicester, and towards the marriages of poor maids, and amending of highways, and other like godly uses; and that the rents of the said lands were £8. 7s 8d a year; And it was further found, that the persons then claiming the estate in the premises, employed the profits, according to a received error, to other uses; viz. They had paid with some part thereof, usually, the mole catcher of that town his wages; had disbursed divers years' profits in building a town-house in Bicester, and paid thereout the sexton's wages, and had employed the rents to other public uses of the same sort.

The substance of the decree of the commissioners, is inserted in the different trust deeds, as will be seen hereafter.

The earliest account we have of the lands vested in the feoffees, subsequent to the inquisition, is contained in a terrier, which purports to have been made in the forty-fifth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and contains the following particulars:—

In Burcester.—Two tenements, adjoining together, in Burcester.

Eight acres of land, called Perry's Piece, belonging to the said two tenements, lying in Little East Field, of Burcester.

Wallingford.—A tenement in the market-place.

Another tenement in the market-place, called the Cock.

An orchard, belonging to the Cock.

Three other tenements, one in the High-street and Martyn-street; the other two in Fish-street.

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**Brackley.**—Four fanns, and four bulh, in six parcels, lying in the open fields of Brackley.

**Stratton Audley.**—Four acres of land, in four parcels.

One yard of land.

Four ridges.

Two legs, and two yards of land, in two parcels.

Four lands, in two parcels.

One half acre of meadow.

One dole; lying in different fields in Stratton Audley.

**Soulderb.**—Fifteen acres of land, in 14 parcels, lying in different open fields.

A piece of ground, called Bullifurion, containing three acres, or thereabouts.

Two little closes, called Brown's closes.

**Potteraperry Fields.**—Two acres of land, in three parcels.

**Yardley Fields.**—Seven acres and an half, in 15 parcels.

**Cosgrave Fields.**—Three acres and three quarters, in seven parcels.

It will be observed, that, in this terrier, no property is mentioned in Bucknall or Wendlebury, or in New Woodstock. We have not been able to discover any other trace of the feoffees having held land in Bucknall or Wendlebury, than what is stated in the inquisition; in New Woodstock, however, they held two tenements, until a few years ago, and these were probably omitted in the terrier, by mistake, as there is the following note at the bottom of it, in writing, apparently of nearly the same date as the rest of the writing :—"Quare, the house at Woodstock."

New feoffees have been appointed, from time to time, and in the successive conveyances the same form has been adopted, except with regard to the enumeration of the parishes and places in which the trust property has been described as having been situate. In this respect, the trust deeds vary, according to the changes which have taken place, either by the alienation of the old, or the acquisition of new property.

By indentures of lease and release, dated 24th and 25th June, 1803 (being the last trust deed), Sir Gregory Page Turner, and seven others, inhabitants, and landholders within the parish of Bicester, for fulfilling the trust reposed in them, conveyed to the use of themselves, and of George Osmond, Richard Smith, Thomas Tubb, and three others, also inhabitants and landholders, within the said parish, the messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, situate in the towns, parishes, and fields, of Souldern, New Woodstock, and Bicester, in the county of Oxford, in East Pury, or Potteraperry, Yardley, and Cosgrave, in the county of Northampton, and Ludgershall, in the county of Bucks, on the trusts declared in certain decretal orders, made upon the inquisition above mentioned, dated 6th April, 41 Elizabeth, the said orders being given at the foot of the said instrument, as follows :—

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1st. That every aged, poor, and impotent inhabitant, in the said town of Bicester, that should be relieved by the feoffees, their heirs, or assigns, with the rents and profits of the lands mentioned in the inquisition thereto annexed, should be relieved, with the privity and consent of the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers, and with the consent of four of the inhabitants of the said town, that should be rated highest in the subsidy book, and if there should be above four of one rate, then with the consent of four of that rate of the most ancient inhabitants.

2dly. That such poor as aforesaid being relieved, the said feoffees might then, and not before, with the consent aforesaid, bestow some of the rents to the marriage of poor maidens, born, and then inhabiting in the town of Bicester, and if there should be none such to be married, then to the mending the highways in Bicester, which no private person should be bound to mend.

3dly. That the feoffees should not grant any lease for a longer term than ten years, nor in reversion, nor for life, and all leases to be made with the privity and consent aforesaid.

4thly. That they should reserve upon every lease the full yearly rent, without taking any fine, and should not suffer any poor to dwell upon any part of the land that should not be able to pay the rent, but that no poor should be relieved, but out of the issues and profits, for, by some poor inhabiting upon some part thereof, there had grown much abuse.

5thly. That, any feoffees disbursing any of the profits, otherwise than as therein ordered, should be charged with the amount, as if there had been no such disbursement.

6thly. That, yearly, in Whitsun week, an account should be made with the feoffees, before the vicar, churchwardens, overseers, and such four inhabitants as aforesaid, and that the surplus that should remain in the accountant's hand, should be put into the chest for the use of the poor, or be employed as a stock for their relief, with the privity and consent aforesaid.

Lastly. That, in every conveyance which should be made within three months after there should be but four feoffees alive (or before), these orders should be rehearsed, and acknowledged to be for ever thereafter observed; and, in the same conveyance, there should be a condition contained, that, if any of the parties should not observe these orders, according to the true meaning thereof, that then the said conveyance as to such person should cease and be void; and, notwithstanding any thing in these articles contained, it was thought, upon good consideration shown to the commissioners, by the towns-



men of Bicester, that 10s. should be spent at the yearly meeting about the account; and that, if one or more, of the said vicar, churchwardens, overseers, and four inhabitants, should disagree from the rest, the dissenters should give a reason for such their disagreement; and if the reason should not be allowed by the major part of the feoffees, it should be as if no such dissent had been made; and that, notwithstanding anything thereinbefore contained, a lease might be made of any dwelling-house whereunto no land was belonging, for 21 years, or any lesser term, so that, at the time, it should be ruinous and in decay, and the lessee bound to new make it.

The property, now in the possession of the feoffees, consists of:—

1. (Bicester.) An allotment of land, containing 29A. 1R. 6P. set out to the feoffees on the inclosure of the common fields in Bicester, in lieu of their lands and rights of common, by the award of the commissioners, bearing date 16th September, 1758.

Of the lands, in lieu of which this allotment was set out, it is probable that those mentioned in the terrier of 45th Elizabeth, formed a part, and that the rest were purchased by the feoffees in 1719, as we find, that, by two several deeds, dated 22d May, 1719, Thomas Potter the elder, and Thomas Potter his son, and heir apparent, in consideration of £140, conveyed to Sir William Glynn and others, the then feoffees, and their heirs, a quarter of a yard land, containing, by estimation, 14 acres, dispersed in the fields of Bicester Market End, and one rood of meadow; and also assigned to them, for the residue of a term of 9,990 years, three cottages or tenements, in Bicester, with the stables, yards, gardens, and appurtenances.

A deed, by which these three cottages were assigned to Edmund Potter, a former possessor, is endorsed, a conveyance "of three cottages, now the workhouse."

2. A large stone building, with outhouses, and garden, situate in Bicester, and used as a workhouse.

These premises are supposed to comprise the two tenements mentioned in the old terrier, as well as the three tenements which were purchased by the feoffees in 1719.

3. A dwelling-house near the church, formerly in two tenements, let to Eve Humphreys, with a small yard and garden.

We have no means of accounting for the acquisition of these premises, unless we suppose that these are the two tenements mentioned in the old terrier, and that there is some

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4: Souldern. Two cottages, with three parcels of land, called  
the Hume Close, containing.....  
The Barn Ground.....  
The Lower Ground.....

A. R. P.  
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13 1 2  
13 2 25  
28 - 16

5. Potterspary, Yardley, and Cosgrove. There are in these three adjoining parishes, in Northamptonshire, several parcels of land, containing altogether, as appears by a survey thereof, dated 29th September, 1803, 10a. 2a. 32r.

**Yardley.** Great Bicester Close ..... 1901  
Little ditto .....  
**Cosgrove.** Church Close, No. 1 .....  
Do. do. No. 2 .....  
**Potter's Pury.** Shoulder of Mutton Close .....

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27. The feeffees are also possessed of £350 stock, in the three per cent consols, standing in the names of Richard Smith, and Thomas Tubb. Previous to 1818, there was £150 stock; and on the 11th of September in that year, £200 was purchased, in addition thereto, for £151. 5s, which was part of a sum received for the property tax, returned to the trust.

This sum appears to have been laid out in 1772, being the produce of an estate at Wallingford, which belonged to the

**S** - *Staphylococcus aureus* (100%)

feoffees, and was sold to Richard Toovey, as hereafter mentioned.

9. There is also £20, which was in the hands of Thomas Shanton, who, by indenture, dated 8th January, 1706, in consideration thereof, demised, by way of mortgage, a messuage and shop, with a barn, garden, &c. thereto belonging, in Blackthorn, to the feoffees, for 500 years.

It appears, by an entry in the old books, that this £20 was part of the produce of an estate at Stratton Audley, which was sold by the feoffees, as hereafter mentioned.

The above is the whole of the property now belonging to the feoffees.

The rest of the property, mentioned in the title of the 45th Elizabeth, has been sold at different periods.

Of the premises mentioned in Wallingford, it appears, that the feoffees, by indenture, dated 1st October, 1670, conveyed to the corporation of that borough, a messuage, called the Cock, and a piece of ground adjoining, in consideration of £140, and the yearly payment of £27; to be secured to them by the said corporation; we have not been able to obtain any information as to the £27; there is no such receipt entered in the books.

There appears also to have been another sale of property there previous to 1708, as we find £200, which was secured on mortgage at that period, described in the account book, as the produce of the premises sold at Wallingford.

About the year 1772, the feoffees sold the whole of the property then remaining at Wallingford, which appears, by a lease granted in 1758, to have consisted of four tenements in Fish-street, to Richard Toovey, for about £340, of which £500 was lent, as above mentioned, to the trustees of the Bicester and Aylesbury road, and the rest was applied in paying off a debt then due.

With respect to the premises at Brackley, we find, amongst the documents deposited in Bicester church, two conveyances of messuages and tenements in Brackley, both dated 1677, the consideration being £100 for the one, and £27, 10s for the other.

An estate in Stratton Audley, as it appears from an entry in the large book of accounts, was sold about the year 1797.

From the same book it appears, that in 1682, the feoffees had once property in the parish of Ambrosden, but how it was acquired, we have not been able to trace. These premises were sold in 1696, and were conveyed by indenture, dated 18th March, in that year, to the Rev. William Keeney, of

*Hundred of Ploughley.*

Ambroden, by the description of a close of meadow called Long Mead, containing, by estimation, 17 acres.

The several sums for which the estates above mentioned were sold, amounting, as far as we can obtain any information, to £867. 10s, were probably laid out in part payment of the purchase of the Ludgershall estate. It is possible, however, that other sales might have taken place, besides those of which we have happened to meet with the conveyances, or which are casually alluded to in the books.

The only other premises which the feoffees appear ever to have held, are those in New Woodstock, mentioned in the inquisition, and described in a lease dated 5th April, 1762, as two messuages. These had been let at £9 per annum, but were sold previous to 1782. There is no account of the sale entered in the books, nor could we learn from any other source the sum which was paid by the purchaser, or to what purpose the produce was applied.

The following is an account of the income derived from the sources above mentioned:—

1. The allotment in Bicester is let to James Parker, as yearly tenant, at £21. He took this land in 1820, at £30, since which time, it has been gradually reduced to £21. The land is arable, and of bad quality, but it is considered as being now worth £25 a year, and notice has been given to the tenant to quit. Since the inclosure, a barn and out-buildings have been erected upon this farm, at the expense of the trust.

2. The workhouse is let to the overseers of Bicester Market End, at £16 a year, at which rent they have held it from 1805. This is a fair rent, the overseers being bound to keep the premises in repair, which had been, previously to 1805, very expensive to the charity.

3. The remaining premises in Bicester, consisting of a house, yard, and garden, are let to Eye Humphries, at the rent of £5. The value is estimated at £8 a year, but the tenant having laid out a considerable sum in improving them, it would be unfair, at present, to raise the rent.

4. The property in Souldern is let to John Hill, as yearly tenant, at £55 a year. He took it in 1821, at £65, but the trustees found it necessary to lower it.

5. The lands at Potterspury, Yardley, and Cosgrove, are let to Henry Horne, as yearly tenant, at £20, to which the rent was reduced at Lady-day 1821, from £24. The present is stated to be a fair rent.

6. The public house and lands at Ludgershall, are let to William Justice, as yearly tenant, at £63. From Lady-day

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1817, up to Lady-day 1822, it had been let at £80 a year. The present rent seems to be the fair value. The tenant gives security for the rent.

7. The dividend on the £350 stock, after deducting commission, amounts annually to £10 8s.

8. The produce of the money secured upon the turnpike tolls has been uncertain. In 1820, interest was due for 37½ years, amounting to £558. 15s. Two years' interest was paid in 1821, and also in 1822 and 1823, leaving due 34½ years, £513. 15s. In this year one year's interest only has been received; and it is understood, that the trustees intend paying the interest of the current year only for the present.

9. The interest due on mortgage is very irregularly paid. John Stanton is in possession of the mortgaged premises. In 1806, ten years' interest was paid, and, since that time, only £5 has been received, leaving now 12 years in arrear. The feoffees have before been compelled to serve a notice of ejectment upon him; and they will probably be obliged to adopt the same course again. The mortgaged premises are sufficient to pay the arrears in addition to the principal.

This income, amounting to £210. 8s. per annum, is liable in the first instance to the following deductions:

	s.	d.
For land-tax on the four different estates.....	9	11 7
The insurance of all the buildings upon the different estates..)	2	15 6
Stamps for receipts, about.....	-	5 -
There is also allowed for the feoffees, at their annual meeting, according to the finding in the inquisition.....	-	10 0
Amongst the annual expenses may be also included (though it has not been paid since 1817, a short time previous to the death of the late Mr. Coker) an annual charge of £1. 10s. (which has been paid to that family at least from the year 1763, and is generally entered in the accounts as "rents or rent.").....	1	10 -
How this payment originated is unknown.		

Repairs are hardly to be considered as an annual charge upon the property; but, occasionally, heavy expenses have been thus incurred. In 1807, the public house and buildings at Ludgershall, were put into repair previously to the tenant entering upon them, the amount of which was £110. 7s; and in 1822, £13. 1s 3d, was paid on the same account. Those premises now require some repairs, which, it is stated, will cost about £90. In 1823, £4. 9s 6d, was paid for the repairs of the barn on the Bicester lands.

Out of the clear rents, after these deductions, a weekly distribution of money is made amongst poor persons of the the two divisions of the parish of Bicester, viz. Market End and King's End. The proportion disposed of in these two

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townships has always been 4-5ths in the former, and in the latter 1-5th. In the former, the meeting is held on the Thursday in Whitsun week, and the ministers, church wardens, and overseers, attend. At this meeting, a list having been previously made out of all new applicants by the vestry, who keep the accounts for the year, such vacancies as have taken place in the list of the preceding year, either by death, or removal from the parish, by the marriage of any female, or by any person going into the workhouse, are filled up by the vestry. In this appointment, the minister, churchwardens, and overseers (though they attend the meeting), have no voice. Orders have been made by the vestry, from time to time, that no person should be admitted to the benefit of this charity who receives parish relief; and this regulation is strictly observed. The object of the vestry in making the selection, is to appoint such persons as have been reduced from better circumstances, always taking into consideration those persons who, from age, are become incapable of maintaining themselves. The list for the year 1823-4, contains 37 names, the number having been somewhat reduced from the preceding year, on account of the lowering of the rents. The mode of the weekly payment is settled every year, at the meeting of the vestry, according to the circumstances of the poor persons; and the payments are made by the acting vestry for the year, every second Thursday. In the present year, the weekly payments amount to £4, and the sum which will have been expended at the end of the present year in this manner, will be about £208, unless, before the end of it, some of the pensioners should die, or become unqualified to receive the allowance. As the clear rental at the present time falls short of £200 per annum, it will be necessary to make a further reduction in the weekly payments, or in the number of the pensioners, as soon as the balance now in hand shall be exhausted.

At the last settling of the accounts, at Whitsuntide, 1823, there was a balance in hand of £121. 9s 7d; in the preceding year £76. 13s 8d; and in 1820-21, there was a balance against the charity of £4. 10s 2d.

Upon inspecting the accounts, it appears, that the balance had accrued in favour of the charity, from the payment of arrears of rent, and the increased payments from the Bicester and Aylesbury road. The clear income of the present year, 1823-4, will fall short of the expenditure, so that the balance which was in hand at the last Whitsuntide will be reduced.

## BAILLIWICK RENTS

The poor of the parish of Bicester are entitled to 4 shares out of 34 of the profits of the manor and bailiwick of Bicester. We have not, however, been able to obtain the slightest information as to the origin of their title thereto. It appears, that about the year 1586, William Earl of Derby sold to his tenants all his right and title to the manor and lordship of Bicester, with the appurtenances, for £750; and conveyed the same for a term of 10,000 years, to Thomas Wickens and Thomas Clements, in trust for the said tenants according to the amount and proportion of the ancient rents paid by each tenant respectively.

This property now consists of, 34 undivided shares, all of which, except those belonging to the poor of Bicester, are vested in private persons.

The profits consist of the rent of the shambles, and of two cottages in Bicester, the tolls of the fairs and markets, and a payment of £4 a year from the tithing-man, in respect of a plot of ground, containing 3a. 2r. 3r. which was set out upon the inclosures; in lieu of the land and interests which such officer had previously enjoyed, and some casual profits from doctlands.

The bailiwick (as this property is now termed) is let to Robert Jackson, as yearly tenant, at £21 a year, at which rent it has been let from the year 1800. Immediately before that, it was let for £21. 1s.; but formerly it produced as much as £50 a year. The casual profits of the manor are not included in the letting to Jackson, and, occasionally, a deadend is received, in addition to the rent. £21 is stated to be nearly the full value. This rent is subject to the following deductions:—

A salary to the receiver, which has been of the same amount	£ 100 00
from at least the year 1790.....	5 14 5
Land tax.....	1 14 5
Insurance of the shambles, quit rent, and stamps.....	7 10 8

Leaving the clear receipt of £13. 9s. 6d.

Mr. Richard Smith has been the receiver of these rents for the last 17 years, and he divides the clear produce amongst the different proprietors; and once in every five or six years four-fifths of the shares belonging to the Bicester poor are distributed in clothing by him amongst the poor of Market End, and the remaining fifth used always to be given to the late Mr. Coker, who distributed it in the same manner in the township of King's End. At Christmas, 1819, £5. 17s. was disposed of in Bicester Market End, amongst about 20 poor

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Women, in stuff gowns and calico. The share of the King's End poor has been kept in hand for the arrival of Mr. Gekel, who is expected to come to Bloomster town, and to reside there.

Poor's Stock.

There is, in the new 4 per cents, the sum of £31: 3s 1d stock, rate £48. 12s 5d, Navy 5 per cents, the dividends of which are distributed amongst the poor of Bloomster Market End.

The origin of this fund is not precisely known; it appears, however, to be the produce of a sum of money for which a house in Bloomster was sold by the churchwardens, as we find, that, in a paper drawn up for the security of John Humphreys, who bought the house in 1803, it is testified, that in 1767, Jasper Robbins sold to John Stratton for £50, a cottage or tenement in Bloomster, over-against the causeway leading towards the churchway, that Stratton did not pay the said £50, but paid interest to Robbins for the same for his life, and after his decease to the church warden of Bloomster Market End, and that in 1792, the said John Stratton paid £50 to the churchwarden of Bloomster Market End, which was laid out in the purchase of £49. 18s 9d, 5 per cent annuities; and it was declared, by this writing, that the said John Stratton, and John Thongur, who had received the money, William Phillips, in whose name the stock was purchased, and Charles Hadfield, the churchwarden, that the above statement was true.

In what manner the churchwardens acquired any interest in these premises we have not been able to learn.

The dividends are paid to the Market End churchwarden, who distributes the amount about Christmas amongst poor persons of that district; the poorest objects are selected, and the number varies from about 12 to 20. In 1824, 19 persons partook of the charity.

WEEKLY BREAD.

We have not been able to ascertain the origin of the following charity; it had been paid regularly for many years, by the owners of a messuage, tenement, and bakehouse, in St. John's street, in Bloomster, when the premises were purchased in 1796, by Mr. Henry Walford, a solicitor, who insisted upon a compensation, on account of this annual payment; and had refused to enter in his purchase deed, which is dated 5th January, 1796, by which the premises were conveyed to him free of all incumbrances, except a mortgage therein mentioned; and also, except a charge of six two penny loaves every Sunday to six poor widows, inhabitants of the town of Bloomster.



Mr. Walford nominates six poor widows, of Bicester Market-End, and they receive from a baker in the town six two-penny loaves every Sunday.

#### MARY CARLETON'S CHARITY.

By indenture, dated 28th November, 1717, reciting, that by a marriage settlement the premises thereafter mentioned, had become vested in Dr. White Kennett, and Matthew Adams, in trust, for such purposes as Mary the wife of Edward Carleton, should, by her will, or otherwise, appoint; and reciting, that the said Mary Carleton had agreed with John Wood for the sale thereof; it is witnessed, that in consideration of the rent charge therein after mentioned, and of the sum of £50, paid to the said Mary Carleton, the said Dr. Kennett and Matthew Adams, by the direction of the said Mary Carleton, conveyed to the said John Wood, a close of pasture, in the parish of Brill, Bucks, containing, by estimation, three acres, (which had been theretofore allotted upon the disafforestation of the forest of Bernwood, to an ancient cottage in Brill), to the said John Wood, his heirs, and assigns, for the purposes thereafter mentioned; viz. that William Rowse and another, churchwardens of Bicester, and John Burrows, and 17 others, all of Bicester, their heirs, and assigns, should receive the yearly rent charge of 42s 6d, issuing out of the premises aforesaid, to be paid on the 14th February, yearly, without any deduction, with a power of distress in case of nonpayment; and further reciting, that Sarah Kennett, the late wife of the said Dr. Kennett, and the daughter of the said Mary Carleton, had died on the 2d March, 1693, and was buried in the chancel of the church of Bicester, and that the said Mary Carleton, in commemoration of her said daughter, had directed that a sermon should be preached in the said church, on the said 2d of March, of which the parish clerk was to give notice on the preceding Sunday, and was also to ring the great bell on the day of the sermon; and that the said Mary Carleton had directed, that on the said day, after the sermon, 40 sixpenny loaves of good wheat bread should be distributed amongst 40 of such of the poorest widows, inhabiting in Bicester, if there should be so many, and if not, to such other poor women, as the minister and churchwardens should direct (such persons to have the benefit thereof during their respective lives); and that the said Mary Carleton also directed, that the clerk of the said parish should keep the monuments of her late husband, Robert Carver, and of her said daughter, Sarah Kennett, clean; it was agreed, that, the said William Rowse, and others, their heirs, and

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assigns, should, out of the said 42s 6d, pay yearly to the minister who should preach the said sermon 20s, immediately afterwards; and should also pay two days previously 20s, to the churchwardens, to be laid out in 40 sixpenny loaves, to be distributed as aforesaid, and should also pay 2s 6d to the clerk, for ringing the bell and cleaning the monuments; as aforesaid; with a proviso, that, if the intention of the said Mary Carleton should not be in all respects observed, the said sums should be paid to the minister, churchwardens, and clerk, of Brill, with the like remainder, in case of neglect, to the parish of Ambrosden; and that, in case either of the monuments aforesaid should be out of repair, the same should be repaired out of the said rent-charge, with a power to the said trustees to retain so much as should be necessary for expenses; and it was further provided, that, whenever 15 of the said trustees should be dead, the survivors, with the advice of the minister and churchwardens, should nominate 20 other persons, of whom the minister and churchwardens of Bicester, should be three, and should convey the said rent-charge to them upon the like trusts.

The rent-charge of 42s 6d is received by the churchwardens, annually, from William Parsons, the owner and occupier of the premises charged. Of this, 20s is paid to the minister for preaching a sermon on the 2d March, in the church at Bicester; 2s 6d to the clerk, for ringing the bell on that day, and keeping clean the two monuments of Mrs. Kennett and Robert Carver, and the residue, 20s, is given away in 40 sixpenny loaves, to 40 of the poorest widows of the parish of Bicester; the widows attend at the church, unless prevented by illness, and are selected at the time by the churchwardens. About 10s is also given away at the same time, out of the churchwardens' accounts, in the same manner, a greater number than 40 widows generally attending.

#### WILSON'S GIFT.

*Mary Wilson*, by will, dated 17th December, 1735, as it appears by the deed hereafter abstracted, settled the yearly sum of £1. 10s, to the use of the poor widows of this parish, to be laid out in bread.

By indentures of lease and release, the latter dated 22d February, 1814, Sir John Cope conveyed to John Proctor, his heirs, and assigns, a messuage in Bicester, with the garden and premises thereto belonging, and other small parcels of property in Bicester, a plot or parcel of land, containing, by estimation, 8 acres, lying in a place called the Lower clay, in a field called the Home-field, (allotted in lieu

of several parcels of land, lying in the open fields of Bicester, by the Act for inclosing the said fields; passed in the 30th George III.); also a parcel of land in Caversfield, called Caversfield farther plain, containing, by estimation, 40 acres; and a parcel of ground in Caversfield, formerly called the Windmill ground, containing, by estimation, 10 acres, which parcels of land had been lately inclosed, and measured, and divided, and were then known by the names, and contained the quantities following, viz.—the Barn ground, with the barn, yard, stable, and outbuildings, containing 20A. 3R. 24P.; the Further ground, containing 19A. 3R. 17P.; Mead's ground, containing 11A. 2R. 2P.; with a covenant, that the said premises were free from all incumbrances, except the annual payment of £1. 10s, to be laid out in buying bread for the poor widows of the said parish of Bicester, on St. Thomas's day, in every year, under and by virtue of the last will of Mary Wilson, deceased, bearing date the 17th December, 1735.

The property above-mentioned has since been purchased by the Honourable and Rev. Jacob Marsham, D.D. and he pays annually £1. 10s, to a baker in Bicester, who distributes 60 sixpenny loaves to as many poor persons of the parish, principally widows. The list of persons, who at present receive this bread, was originally made out by Mr. Proctor, the former proprietor of the lands.

#### LOST CHARITIES.

##### HART'S GIFT TO THIS AND OTHER PARISHES.

*John Hart*, by will, dated 12th May, 1664, left to his wife the manor of Cotsford, in the county of Oxford, with the messuages, lands, &c. thereto belonging, for her life, subject to the payment of debts and legacies; and he gave to the provost and fellows of Eton College, of whom the said manor was holden, a rent-charge of £20, providing they would take but £10, for renewing the said lease from time to time.

And he gave to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Bicester a rent-charge of £10, for binding out poor boys apprentices, and he also gave rent-charges, issuing out of the same premises, for the like purpose, to the overseers of Cotsford, Fringford, Brackley, Hethe, Mixbury, and Witney.

It does not appear that any thing was ever received for this or any of the neighbouring parishes. As the testator had only a leasehold interest in the premises which he charged with these payments, these charities must be considered as absolutely lost.

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**BURROUGHS'S GIFT.**

In a letter addressed to the vicar of Bicester, by the Bishop of Oxford, dated 28th August, 1738, it is mentioned, that *Richard Burroughs* had given by will £10 a year to the poor of Bicester; and amongst the parish papers is a note of the names of the poor chosen for *Richard Burroughs's* gift, at Michaelmas, 1750, in which are the names of eight poor persons, and of the drapers and tailors who furnished them clothing.

Nothing is more known of this charity than what appears from these papers.

**SIR THOMAS GRANTHAM'S GIFT.**

*Sir Thomas Grantham*, as it is recited in the condition of a bond, dated 18th March, 1734, left by his will £50, to *John Burroughs*, and directed that the interest should be distributed yearly, at Christmas, amongst such poor widows of the parish of Bicester, as the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers, should think proper objects.

By this bond, *John Burroughs*, the younger, became bound to the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers of Bicester, in the penalty of £100, conditioned for the payment of the said legacy, with interest, he having, as it is therein declared, been directed, by the will of his father, the said *John Burroughs* first-mentioned, to pay and apply the said legacy according to the intent of the said *Sir Thomas Grantham*.

There is, amongst the parish papers, an account of the distribution of £1. 19s, in respect of this charity, amongst poor widows, in the year 1750.

It is understood, that *John Burroughs*, the younger, became insolvent, and this money was in consequence lost.

**PARISH OF FRINGFORD.****MRS. RICHARDS'S AND MRS. ADDINGTON'S CHARITIES.**

It is stated in the returns made to Parliament, in 1786, that *Ann Richards* gave £10 for poor widows, not receiving parish relief, and that *Mrs. Addington* gave £5 for the same purpose.

The sum of £15 was placed out on private security, till about six years ago, when it was paid, and deposited in the Oxford savings' bank. The interest is distributed annually, about Christmas, amongst poor widows of the parish, by the minister. The poorest widows are selected; they all receive parish relief.

## PARISH OF FRITWELL.

### HICCOCK'S CHARITY.

It appears, by an inscription on a copper-plate, in the church, at Fritwell, that *William Hiccock*, who died the 8th of September, 1638, gave, after the decease of *Philippa*, his wife, 40s a year, for ever, to the poor of Fritwell, "to be paid by those who possess the land."

This annual sum is now paid by Mrs. Court, the possessor of an estate in Fritwell, which formerly belonged to Hiccock.

It is distributed, together with the next mentioned charity, about Christmas, in bread or coal, as has been thought most expedient by the minister.

In the winter of 1823, the distribution was in bread. Single persons had each a quartern loaf, those with families a half-peck loaf; and some, whose families were large, received more. They were given to all the poor parishioners indiscriminately. The coals, when given, were distributed amongst the poor upon a similar principle of division.

The non-resident parishioners have also partaken of this charity, money or bread having been given to them, as was most convenient.

### DONOR UNKNOWN.

An annual sum of 20s is paid by Mr. Adams, the tenant of an estate in Fritwell, belonging to William Fermor, esquire, called South field farm, upon which the payment is supposed to be charged, but it is not known by whom this charity was given. It is distributed with Hiccock's charity.

### LOST CHARITY.

It is stated, by an old parishioner, that there was formerly £20 charity money, the interest of which used to be distributed, but which afterwards came into the hands of a person who became insolvent, and the money was lost.

## PARISH OF HETHE.

### FUEL MONEY.

An annual sum of £4 is paid to the parish officers of Hethe, by the occupier of a farm in the adjoining parish of Hardwick, consisting of 300 or 400 acres, belonging to William Fermor, esq.

It is understood, from the testimony of old persons, that  
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the parishioners of Hethe had formerly a right to cut fuel, upon the waste lands in Hardwick; and that, upon an inclosure of that land many years ago, it was agreed, that this annual payment should be made out of the farm in question, as a compensation to the poor of Hethe for their common right. There are, however, no documents in the parish respecting it, that we can hear of.

The tenant of the farm pays the £4 regularly, and it is applied about Christmas, by the overseer, in a distribution of fuel, either wood or coals, or of money, to the poor resident parishioners. The last two winters it has been given in money, every poor family receiving 2s. When given in fuel, the distribution has been in like manner, of an equal quantity to each house.

## PARISH OF HEYFORD AT BRIDGE.

### MALPAS'S CHARITY.

*Abigail Merry*, alias *Malpas*, (who was born August 24, 1594), by will (according to the extract thereof entered in the parish register, but without date), gave and bequeathed to the poor of the parish of Heyford ad Pontem, where she was born, 20s a year, issuing out of certain messuages and tenements in Three Leg-court, White Cross-street, Cripplegate, payable at Christmas, to be distributed amongst them, by the churchwardens of the said parish, for the time being, with a power of distress to the said churchwardens, in case of nonpayment.

In respect of the 20s, above mentioned, 16s per annum is received at the office of the chamberlain of London; the 4s is understood to be deducted for land-tax, the same deduction having been made, at least from the year 1796. The 16s is received occasionally, as the rector happens to be in London, and is distributed by him with the other charity money, as hereafter mentioned.

### BRUCE'S CHARITY.

*Susannah Bruce*, who died 21st December, 1706, by her will, (according to an extract entered in the same register), bequeathed to the poor of the parish of Heyford ad Pontem, to be paid to the churchwardens for the time being, the sum of £10, which sum the churchwardens, with the advice of the rector, and two of the chief inhabitants of the town afore-

said, should be safely placed, so that the poor should have the yearly interest, 10s, paid immediately after Christmas.

It is further stated in the register, that, in 1797, the interest of the above sum had been in arrear for some years, when £7. 10s was paid, which with the principal, and a subscription of some of the inhabitants, making up £20, was placed in the hands of Mr. William King, he having given his note of hand for the amount, with 20s interest.

And there is another entry made and signed by the Rev. William Filmer, the rector, stating, that, in 1801, Mr. King paid the amount into his hands, and that he promised to pay the same interest.

This 20s is added to the 16s per annum, payable in respect of Malpas's charity, and the money collected at the sacrament; and out of this fund Mr. Filmer gives to the poor sums of money, varying from 1s to 2s 6d, after each sacrament day. The principal distribution is in January. The persons selected are those who seem to be in the greatest want, and most, if not all of them, receive parish relief: a regular account has been kept from the year 1797, when Mr. Filmer came to the living.

## PARISH OF HEYFORD WARREN.

### MYRRY'S CHARITY:

In the returns made to Parliament in 1786, is stated, a benefaction of £10 to the poor of this parish, made by Gabriel Myrry, in 1721, the interest to be distributed in bread.

Upon a mural monument on the south side of the parish church, is the following inscription:—

“In memory of Gabriel Myrry, of the parish of St. Giles's  
“in the Fields, in the county of Middlesex, gentleman,  
“second son of John Myrry, of Heyford Warren, gent.  
“who died the 8th of May, 1721, and hath left to the poor  
“of the said parish, the interest of £10, to be annually  
“paid to them on New Year's day, for ever.”

We cannot find any trace, in the parish of Heyford Warren, of this charity having ever been received.

### ANONYMOUS.

The above mentioned returns record another sum of £2. 4s 4d, the remains of several small donations given to the poor.

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## CHARITIES AT HEYFORD WARREN. 143

An old parishioner of Heyford Warren states; that he remembers a sum of somewhat more than £2, having been given away by the churchwarden about the year 1786. It appears probable, that, on that occasion, the whole of the above sum was distributed.

## PARISH OF MIXBURY.

### GIFTS OF SIR JOHN WELSBORNE AND OTHERS.

Upon a table of benefactions in the church of Mixbury, are recorded the following gifts to the poor of that parish:—

	£.	s.	d.
Sir John Welsborne, knight, 1611.....	3	—	—
Julian Webb, widow, 1639.....	1	—	—
Thomas Gibbs, 1667.....	1	—	—
John Wellicome, 1673.....	5	—	—
George Gibbs, 1710.....	10	—	—
Richard Strange, 1721.....	3	—	—
Aaron Gibbs.....	10	—	—
Moses Gibbs, 1726.....	10	—	—

A sum of £43, apparently made up of the above benefactions, was placed in the hands of the late Stanlake Batson, esquire, lord of the manor of Mixbury, and the chief proprietor of land there, for which he gave his promissory note, dated the 23d July, 1801, to Simon Rogers, and Thomas Westcar, the churchwardens of the parish of Mixbury, with lawful interest from the date thereof.

This money is now in the hands of Stanlake Batson, esquire, his son, and successor in the property at Mixbury.

The interest of this being £2. 9s a year, is paid to the overseers by Mr. Henry Walford, of Bicester, agent to Mr. Batson, and is distributed in bread, on the 1st January. It is given away in the church, with some other money, in shilling, sixpenny, and three-penny loaves, among the poor of the parish, the quantity given to each being in proportion to the number in family.

### ROGERS'S CHARITY.

Simon Rogers, of Mixbury, by will, dated 13th May, 1812, bequeathed to the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the parish of Mixbury, the sum of £100, in trust, that they should place out the same upon government or other good security, and change the security from time to time, as they should see occasion, and should pay and dispose of the yearly dividends and produce thereof in such manner as they should judge proper, on the 1st of January yearly, to and



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amongst such of the poor men and women inhabiting within, and belonging to the said parish, as should, by his said trustees, be thought proper objects of charity.

The minister and parish officers received £90 for this legacy, (£10 being deducted for legacy duty,) which, with the addition of £2. 2s 6d, advanced for the purpose, was invested on the 27th February, 1821, in the purchase of £100, four per cent annuities, in the names of the Rev. William Jocelyn Palmer and Mr. Henry Painter. The £2. 2s 6d was repaid out of the first year's dividend.

The subsequent dividends have been applied, partly in addition to the distribution of bread, on the 1st of January, and partly in different articles of woollen clothing, given away to poor women of the parish at the same time.

### PARISH OF SOMERTON.

#### SCHOOL.

*Thomas Fermor*, esquire, by will, dated 15th June, 1580, devised to his executors, and their heirs, the Castle-yard in Somerton, and the chapel therein standing, the water-mill only excepted, and directed, that, with the rents and profits of his lands and leases, they should procure and purchase a good and absolute estate in fee simple, of lands, tenements, or rents, of the yearly value of £10, over and above all charges; and that they should procure, licence, and erect, a common school in the said chapel, for the instruction, and bringing up of children in virtue and learning, and should assure the said £10 to a schoolmaster yearly, to be paid to him and his successors, from time to time, for ever, for the teaching and instructing of children in the place aforesaid; and he left to his executors the establishment and ordering of the said school, directing, that, upon the death, or other avoidance of the schoolmaster, another able master should be placed in his room, which nomination he was content that his executors should, by authentic constitution refer to the bishop, archdeacon, or chancellor, of the diocese aforesaid, or the justices of assize, or justices of the peace for the county, or the head of some college in Oxford, or to the parson of Somerton, and some other parsons and vicars thereto adjoining, or to the heir or owner of his dwelling-house at Somerton.

The premises now held in trust for the school, consist of

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a dwelling house for the master, the greater part of which was built about 70 years ago, and a school-room, supposed to have been the old chapel.

There are also a garden and orchard, and four small pieces of pasture land; containing, in the whole, about two acres, which were awarded to the schoolmaster, upon an inclosure, which took place about 60 years ago. All these premises are in the occupation of the schoolmaster.

It appears, also, that a rent-charge of £10, payable out of an estate at Milcomb, near Banbury, was settled for the support of the school, in pursuance of the directions of the testator, but we have not been able to discover any document relating thereto.

Until the last year, the sum of £10 was received annually, by the schoolmaster, from different land-owners in Milcomb. The sum of £4. 19s. 10d. was paid by the tenant of Robert Curling, esquire, who is resident in London, and the remainder thereof, being £5. 0s. 2d., was received, by quarterly payments, from one of the landholders in Milcomb, in respect of his own share of the rent-charge, and the shares of the other landholders, which he collected.

The following is the mode in which the different landholders contributed to the payment of the sum of £5. 0s. 2d.

MIDSUMMER.		s.	d.
Mrs. Lee.....	- 10	8	
Edward Rogers.....	- 3	4	
Charles Matthews.....	- 3	9	
John Varney.....	- 1	5	
	<u>s.</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>4. 11</u>
St. Thomas's.			
Mrs. Lee.....	- 13	0	
Charles Matthews.....	- 5	9	
William Davis, junr.....	- 7	8	
	<u>s.</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>4. 11</u>
LADY-DAY.			
John Lee.....	- 13	6	
Charles Matthews.....	- 11	5	
	<u>s.</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>4. 11</u>
MIDSUMMER.			
Mr. Lee.....	- 14	7	
Charles Matthews.....	- 11	5	
	<u>s.</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>1. 5. 5</u>
Vis. Michaelmas.....	1	4	11
St. Thomas's.....	1	4	11
Lady-day.....	1	4	11
Midsummer.....	1	5	5
		<u>5</u>	<u>- 2</u>

Thus, the annual sum paid by Matthews was £1. 10s 4d; but, lately, upon referring to his title deeds, he found, that he had purchased his estate, subject only to the payment of £1. 2s. He has, therefore, objected to pay more than that sum; and the schoolmaster, having refused to accept the payment, subject to the deduction of 8s 4d, nothing has been paid since 1822.

It is probable, that the rent-charge, purchased under the directions of the testator, Thomas Fermor, was the integral sum of £10, and that the estate, upon which it was charged, having been sold to different persons, some arrangement was made with the purchasers, by which they should each contribute to the payment, in certain proportions.

If this were the case, every part of the estate would, by law, still remain liable to the whole rent-charge; and any particular person, who might have been called upon for the whole, would have his remedy over against the vendors, or the other purchasers. But there is no document to show, that the payment of £10 was ever charged upon one estate; and the evidence of usage, without some such document, tends rather to prove, that each parcel of land is liable only to some fractional part of the £10. Under these circumstances, we apprehend, that we cannot call upon the parties, who now contribute to the payment, to produce their title deeds, in order to discover to us whether their lands are not subject to the whole payment, and that, without such discovery, it would be impossible for the schoolmaster to recover from any of the landholders a greater sum annually than that which they have hitherto paid.

In respect of the profits, derived from the sources above mentioned, viz. the occupation of the school-house and the adjoining premises, and the rent-charge above mentioned, the schoolmaster takes all the poor children of parishioners of Somerton, provided they can read. It has always been understood to be a requisite qualification for admission, that the children should be fit to begin to read the Testament, and to write; but he has, in fact, taken them at an earlier period. There are now 14 or 15 free children in the school, who are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. The master also takes scholars from other places, who pay for their education, and he has some boarders.

The owner of the estate, which belonged to the testator, and which has lately been purchased by Lord Jersey, has always appointed the schoolmaster.

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WATSON'S CHARITY.

In the year 1766, the Rev. Mr. Watson, rector of this parish, left the sum of £20, the interest to be given away in bread to the poor, who should be of the established church.

Through inattention, this charity was neglected, and, for a time, lost, till about the year 1806, when the Rev. John Martin Watson, nephew and successor to the donor, gave a note of hand for £62, being the amount of the original bequest, with the interest then due.

Mr. Watson has lately paid in the £62, and it has been laid out by the Rev. H. Wintle, the rector, in the purchase of stock, new 4 per cents, in his own name. The stock receipt, and a note of the transaction, is placed in the parish chest.

Mr. Watson paid interest for it, at 4 per cent, amounting to £2. 9s 6d, which, until the last year, was given away annually, about Christmas, in money, to the poor of the parish, belonging to the established church, in small sums of 1s or 6d. Last Christmas, it was disposed of amongst the poor in half-peck loaves, at the church, under the direction of the rector.

PARISH OF SOULDERN.

POOR'S ALLOTMENTS.

By an award, drawn up for the inclosure of lands in Souldern, confirmed by a decree in Chancery, dated 29th June, 10th James I, it is stated, amongst other things, that, for the better provision and maintenance of the poor of the said town of Souldern, the surveyors, with the consent and good liking of the lord of the manor, and the principal landholders, set out to and for the use and behoof of the poor inhabitants of Souldern aforesaid, a parcel of ground at Cole's cross, containing seven acres, a plot called the Green, containing five acres, and the Pits and the Bowling-green, containing one acre.

And it was also directed, with the like consent and agreement, that the incumbent of the said parish, and his successors, should pay, yearly, in lieu of a piece of waste ground, adjoining the parsonage, to the churchwardens of Souldern, for the time being, for the proper use and behoof of the poor inhabitants there, the sum of 5s, every Lady-day.

There are no trustees appointed therein, nor are there any directions as to the mode in which the property was intended to be used, or as to the application of the profits.

Previously to the year 1814, the greater part of this land was uninclosed, and every person turned out their horses and cattle upon it as they pleased; and the whole property was a subject of constant contention amongst the poor.

On the 2d April, 1814, Robert Kilbye Cox and Richard Drope Gough, preferred a petition in the court of Chancery, setting forth the decree of the 29th June, 10th James I, by which the award and inclosure were confirmed; and praying, that it might be referred to the Master, to appoint proper persons to be trustees of the lands allotted for the benefit of the poor of Souldern, and to let and receive the rents of the same, and to approve of a scheme for the application of the rents; and that William Godfrey and others might be ordered to deliver up to the trustees, such parts of the said lands as were in their possession respectively, and to account for the rents thereof. Upon which it was ordered, that it should be referred to the Master, to inquire whether the lands mentioned in the petition were part of those allotted to the said poor, and, if so, that he should take an account of the rents and profits, which the persons in possession had received; and also to appoint proper persons to be trustees of the said lands; and it was ordered, that the rest of the petition should stand over, until the Master should have made his report.

The Master's report, dated 18th March, 1815, was confirmed 25th May following, and Robert Kilbye Cox, Richard Drope Gough, William Ralph Cartwright, John Coker, esq. John Hill and William Minn, gentlemen. The lord of the manor for the time being, and the rector, churchwardens, and overseers, of Souldern, for the time being, were appointed trustees of the said lands; and it was ordered, that the persons, whom the master had found were in possession of the said premises, should deliver up the same to the said trustees, and that the costs of the petitioners should be paid out of the rents and profits of the said lands.

No order, however, was made, with respect to the future application of the rents and profits.

The property above described consists—

1st. Of the ground at Cole's cross, containing seven acres, being arable land; and about three-quarters of an acre, part of the green, let on lease, dated 7th May, 1819, to Robert Kilbye Cox, esq. for 99 years, from the date thereof, at the yearly rent of £41, in consideration of £236. 7s 6d.

This lease was granted upon the terms above mentioned, the same having been approved of by the Master in Chancery, for the purpose of paying off the debt incurred by the proceedings above mentioned, and which amounted to that sum.

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The annual value of the premises was then estimated at £12, but does not now exceed £9 or £10.

3d. The remaining part of the green, and the bowling lays. Upon these premises there are 17 cottages, which have been built there, partly by the parish, and partly by the poor themselves. Each of these cottages has a small garden annexed to it, and there are 40 gardens besides.

The cottages and gardens are occupied by poor persons; every one, who occupies a house and garden, pays to the trustees 1s 6d, and every one occupying a garden only 1s.

The poor persons consider that they have a right in the cottages that they hold. They are never turned out during their lives, and, upon their death, their families succeed, paying the same rent. If a cottage falls vacant, and there are none of the family to succeed, the trustees appoint the oldest poor inhabitant who will take it.

The gardens do not descend to the families in the same way; but, when an occupier dies, the trustees give it to the oldest poor inhabitant, who had not a garden before. This mode of occupation of the green has existed for about five years. Previous to that time the land lay open.

3d. The pits and the bowling-green, containing not more than half an acre of pasture, are let to Henry Essery, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £1. 1s, which is the fair value. There are roads adjoining to this land, and encroachments have been made, by building four cottages and fencing out small gardens to them, which, being included, would make the whole plot of ground about one acre, as described in the award. These houses and gardens are comprised in the number above mentioned.

4th. A parcel of land, adjoining the parsonage, for which 5s is paid yearly.

All the rents arising from these premises, amounting, if the whole were collected, to about £5, are carried to an account, separate from the overseers' book, together with the rent of a cottage, built upon the waste, near the turnpike gate, 10s, and the feeding of different lanes in the parish, which are let annually by auction, now held by four tenants, at rents amounting to £1. 16s.

The amount is distributed, under the directions of the vestry, amongst all the poor of the parish, none being omitted. Those who have no cottage or garden, except two or three, who may receive less, have 5s each. Those who have cottages and gardens, receive 1s. A small surplus is always reserved, for poor widows, or old worn-out men.

## DODWELL'S CHARITY FOR CLOTHING.

*Thomas Dodwell*, of Souldern, by indentures of lease and release, dated 17th and 18th August, 1694, conveyed to *Robert Bignell* and *John Watson*, and their heirs, three acres and a half of meadow ground, lying in the town meadow of Souldern, to the use of himself for life, and, after his death, to the use of *Mary Bignell*, her heirs, and assigns, for ever, upon trust, that the said *Mary Bignell*, and her heirs, should, after his decease, pay into the hands of the churchwardens and overseers, for the time being, of the parish of Souldern aforesaid, the yearly sum of 30s, at one entire payment, on the 24th day of June, to the intent, that the said churchwardens and overseers should every year lay out and dispense the said yearly sum of 30s, and every part thereof, in the clothing of two such of the poor people, inhabitants of Souldern aforesaid, as the major part of the landholders of Souldern, being Protestants, and having the quantity of a quarter of a yard land, or more, within the parish of Souldern, should, from time to time, nominate and appoint, and to no other use or purpose whatever.

The sum of £1. 10s is paid annually by *Mr. John Merry*, the owner of the premises charged, and it is laid out by the overseer in cloth, which is given at a vestry, amongst five or six poor and industrious Protestants, not receiving parish relief.

For the last two years, three men and three women have received a sufficient quantity of cloth to make them a jacket or petticoat. The oldest resident parishioners, being married persons, receive it in succession.

## DODWELL'S BREAD CHARITY.

The said *Thomas Dodwell* also, by deed, dated 18th August, 1694, conveyed two closes, in this parish, containing, by estimation, 20 acres, called the Millsedges, to the use of *Mary Laxton*, his niece, for life; and, after her decease, to the use of *John Bignell*, his heirs, and assigns; upon trust, that the said *Mary Laxton*, and her assigns, during her life, and the said *John Bignell*, his heirs, and assigns, after her death, should weekly, on Sunday, in the forenoon, distribute, in the parish church of Souldern, to four poor persons, inhabitants of Souldern, to be from time to time nominated by the major part of the freeholders there, (being Protestants, and having the quantity of a quarter of a yard land in Souldern aforesaid), one three-penny loaf of baker's bread a piece, and, if the landholders should neglect or refuse to nominate such poor persons, it was directed, that the loaves should be delivered by the said

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Mary Laxton, during her life; and the said John Bignell, his heirs, and assigns, afterwards, to any four of the poor Protestant inhabitants of Souldern, who, in their judgment, should most need the same.

By deed, dated 12th March, 1699, the above uses were revoked, and a little close in Souldern, called Little Millsedge, and the above two closes, called the Millsedges, were conveyed, to the use of Robert Bignell, his heirs, and assigns, upon trust, to distribute bread to four poor persons, weekly, as directed in the former deed.

The premises above mentioned, now belong to William Mina, of Souldern.

He supplies four three-penny loaves a week, which are given away at the church, on Sunday morning, to four poor widows of the parish, who are nominated by the vestry, as vacancies take place.

#### CARTWRIGHT'S CHARITY.

The sum of £2. 3s 4d is paid, annually, by *William Ralph Cartwright*, esquire, of Aynhoe, the proprietor of an estate in Souldern.

This appears to be part of a rent-charge of £9. 19s 4d, mentioned in the marriage settlement of the said William Ralph Cartwright, dated 8th April, 1784, whereby certain estates, in Aynhoe, Souldern, Deddington, Clifton, and Hempton, were settled, and which contain, in the covenant against incumbrances, the following clause: "other than and except a certain annual sum of £9. 19s 4d, issuing and payable for ever, out of all or some part of the premises, and hereditaments, hereby conveyed to the poor of Aynhoe, Crowton, and Souldern, for bread, given by the last will of Richard Cartwright, esquire, deceased," (dated 1st February, 1633.)

With the sum of £2. 3s 4d, five eight-penny loaves are provided, which are given, by the overseers, in the church, to five poor widows, who are appointed in the same manner as those who receive Dadwell's bread.

#### WESTCAR'S CHARITY.

*Elizabeth Westcar*, of Hill House, in the parish of Souldern, by will, dated 19th February, 1820, gave to John Westcar and William Tubb, certain property therein mentioned, upon trust, to sell the same, and to make certain payments thereout; and, upon further trust, that they, the said John Westcar and William Tubb, and the survivor of them,



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his executors, or administrators, should stand possessed of the residue of the monies to arise from such sale, in trust, for the purposes thereafter mentioned; that is to say; as to the sum of £400, part thereof, upon trust, to invest the same in their own names or name, in the purchase of stock, in the public funds, or on government securities, at interest; and to alter the securities as occasion should require, and as they should think expedient, and to pay, apply, and lay out, the dividends, interest, and annual proceeds thereof, to arise or be received by them or him, as follows: one half thereof in the purchase of clothing, and the other half thereof in the purchase of bread, to the use of the poor of Souldern, to be given and distributed yearly, on Christmas-day, in such proportions, and in such manner, as the said John Westcar and William Tubb, or the survivor of them, the executors or administrators of such survivor should, in their or his discretion, think fit and direct; and, as to the sum of £200, upon trust, to invest the same, in the like manner, with like power, to alter the securities, and to pay over the dividends and annual proceeds thereof to the schoolmaster, for the time being, of the national school at Souldern, aforesaid, or otherwise permit and empower him to receive and take the same.

These legacies were laid out by the executors, in the purchase of £518. 10s. navy five per cents, which is now converted into £544. 8s. 6d, four per cents, producing an annual dividend of £21. 15s. 6d.

The dividends have hitherto been received by the late William Tubb, of Oxford, and paid by him, part in the purchase of bread, clothes, or blankets, which he distributed himself amongst the poor of Souldern, and part to the master of the national school in Souldern, according to the proportions of the two several legacies.

We are unable to state the particulars of the distribution, in consequence of the illness of Mr. Tubb at the time of our enquiry; and his subsequent death; but there is no doubt that the dividends were properly distributed, though it is suggested, that if Mr. Tubb had been more intimately acquainted with the parish, the objects of charity might have been more judiciously selected.

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# HUNDRED OF WOOTTON.

## PARISH OF NORTH ASTON,

### POOR'S PLAT AND POOR'S STOCK.

The only account we have been able to procure of the charities in this parish, is from a manuscript account of Oxfordshire, compiled by ——— Hackwell, which states, that £10 was placed out at interest in the hands of Mr. Bowles, and that the interest was given away yearly, at Christmas, together with the produce of a piece of land, commonly called the Poor's plat, which was let by the minister to the best-bidder, and was annually worth about £2.

The land called the Poor's plat, and consisting of about one acre of meadow, is distinguished from the adjoining land by boundary stones; it is now let by C. O. Bowles, esq. with other land belonging to him, to Michael Rose; no rent is reserved specifically for the poor's land, but £3 a year is paid by Mr. Bowles in respect thereof, and for the interest of the £10, which was in the hands of his father; £2. 10. appears to be the full annual value of the Poor's plat.

The sum of £3 was distributed by Mr. Bowles, while he resided at North Aston, in coals; last year, it was disposed of, with other money, amongst the poor, in blankets.

## PARISH OF BARFORD ST. MICHAEL.

### POOR'S LAND.

Before the inclosure of this parish, which took place in 1808, there were several detached parcels of land in the open fields, and a small close, which were let for between £6 and £7 a year, and the rent applied for the use of the poor. It is not known in the parish by whom or when this land was given.

At the time of the inclosure, an allotment was set out, in lieu of these lands, tithe free. There was also about an acre of land added to it, which now lies undivided in the same field, and was given in lieu of a cow common, belonging to Shepherd's charity land, next mentioned.

The whole of this land is called the Poor's close; it is situated at Fearn hill, adjoining the Worton Road, and

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consists of about 11 acres of controvertible land. It is let to David Fortnam, upon an agreement, for four years, from Michaelmas 1821, at £20 a year, which is a high rent.

The sum of £2, from this rent, is set apart, as belonging to Shepherd's Charity, and the remainder (deducting land tax, 15s 4d) is applied in the purchase of coals, which are given to the poor.

At Christmas 1823, 10½ tons of coals were purchased, amounting to £12. 16s 6d, and given away to the poor of Great Barford. To the cost price of the coals, £3. 15s was added, as the expenses of carriage and weighing.

There are generally a few shillings given away in lieu of coals, to poor persons belonging to, but not living in, the parish. The whole of the rent is given away every year.

### SHEPHERD'S CHARITY.

There is no document in the parish relating to this charity, which is called by the name of the Bakehouse, or Shepherd's Charity. The property consists of a tenement, and three quarters of an acre of ground attached to it, used as a garden. The allotment in lieu of the cow common, mentioned in the former case, belongs to this charity, and £2 a year is received on account of it, as before mentioned. The dwelling is divided into two tenements; one of them is occupied by Richard Margets, who also rents nearly the whole of the garden, at £8. 8s a year, which is a high rent; the other tenement is let at £2, which is the fair value.

The rent is applied, in the first instance, in keeping the premises in repair, and the remainder, in placing out boys apprentices, and partly in putting boys to school previous to their going out. Since 1812, there have been three boys bound out with premiums, of £10, £12, and £16, respectively.

A considerable sum has been laid out in repairs, and the remainder has been applied in putting boys to school.

The accounts are submitted to the parish occasionally, and signed by the vestry.

There were at the time of our inquiry, March 1824, two years' rent due, which would be called for as soon as there was a boy fit to be bound out.

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## PARISH OF BARTON STEEPLE.

### DONOR UNKNOWN.

There was a sum of £3, which was formerly transferred from year to year, to the overseer for the time being.

It is stated that in 1787, this sum was paid over to William Gilks, then overseer, and there is an entry to that effect in the overseers' book, but he denies having ever received the £3, and he is now very old, in a state of poverty, and supported by the parish.

## PARISH OF BARTON WESTCOTT.

### CHARITIES OF NORWOOD AND OTHERS.

It is stated, on the table of benefactions in the parish church, that Mr. *Norwood* bequeathed £10 to the poor of this parish, the interest to be distributed yearly, at Christmas, in money.

That Mr. *Ford* also bequeathed £10 to the poor of the said parish, the interest thereof to be distributed yearly, at Easter, in bread.

That *Robert Buswell* bequeathed £10 to the poor of the said parish, the interest thereof to be distributed yearly, half at Easter, and half at Christmas, in bread.

That *John Buswell* bequeathed £5 to the said poor, the interest to be distributed yearly, at Christmas, in bread.

That *Edmund Buswell* bequeathed £5 to the said poor, the interest thereof to be distributed yearly, at Easter and Christmas, in bread.

And that *Robert Buswell*, junior, bequeathed £10 to the said poor, the interest thereof to be distributed yearly, at Christmas and Easter, in money or bread.

By indentures of lease and release, dated 13th and 14th April, 1750, William Boddington and John Boddington, in consideration of £50, conveyed to Robert Glading, and Thomas Evans, a close of pasture, or meadow ground, with the appurtenances, in Middle Barton, commonly called the *Hams*, containing, by estimation, one acre, or thereabouts, and a right of way to the same, between the dwelling-house and the barn, belonging to the said William Boddington, (reserving to the said William and John Boddington, liberty to fetch water from a well in the said close); to hold to them and their heirs, in trust, for William Taylor and John Buswell, parties thereto, and their successors, overseers of the poor of Westcott Barton.

There is an endorsement upon the said indenture, stating, that the £50 within mentioned was the amount of the legacies of Norwood, Ford, Robert Buswell, the elder, Robert Buswell, junior, John Buswell, and Edmund Buswell; the particulars of which legacies are stated on the table of benefactions, as already mentioned.

The close mentioned in the above abstracted indenture contains about one acre. It is let by the churchwardens and overseers for the time being, and is now held by Edward Townsend, as yearly tenant, at the rent of £4, which is more than the real value of it, but it is an accommodation to the tenant.

The rent is disposed of in the purchase of bread, which is distributed at Christmas day and Easter, among the poor. At the last distribution there were 41 poor families who partook of it, each having a loaf.

## PARISH OF DEDDINGTON.

### PEOPLES' LANDS.

By an inquisition, taken at Chipping Norton, under a commission of charitable uses, and bearing date 2d August, 1611, it was found, that one house and one yard land in Over Worton, one yard land in Bloxham, one tenement and one yard land in Deddington, three acres of arable land in Hampton, one acre of arable land in Deddington, one tenement, or cottage, in Deddington, another tenement, or cottage, in Deddington, and a cottage and two acres of arable land in Deddington, had, during all the time whereof the memory of man was not to the contrary, been used and employed for and towards the payment of the fifteenths of the parish of Deddington aforesaid.

And also, all that one house, called the Hermitage, in Deddington, aforesaid, had always, during the time aforesaid, been employed for and towards the relief and maintenance of the poor of the same parish.

It was also found, that certain of the inhabitants of the said town of Deddington, had, with money raised out of the said premises, built in Deddington, upon certain ground there, a house, called the Town house, with certain shops, or stalls under and adjoining to the same, and that the said Town house, and shops or stalls, were, by the consent of the said inhabitants, built and erected, to the end that the same, together with the fines, rents, issues, and profits thereof, might be for ever afterwards employed and bestowed, for and

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towards the payment of fifteenths, and the relief and maintenance of the poor of the said parish.

And it was further found, that £10 had been given by William Richson, *alias* Smith, as a stock, to be employed towards the relief and maintenance of the poor of the said parish, to be for ever delivered from churchwardens to churchwardens, and to be by them employed to the best benefit of the poor there, for ever; and that the said churchwardens successively had put in surety to six, which had the best livings within the said parish of Deddington.

Also, that John Welchman, *alias* Baker, and Edward his son, gave 5s a piece to the poor of the parish of Deddington, for ever, to be yearly issuing and paid out of the rents of a house in Deddington, called Baker's house.

Also, that William Johnson, gave £5 as a stock, to be employed and used by poor tradesmen and husbandmen, within the said parish, they using, and paying for it, to the use of the poor of the same parish, and putting in surety for safety of the money.

Also, that Walter Calcott, gentleman, gave 10s yearly, for ever, to the poor of Deddington, to be issuing out of his lands in Williams-cot.\*

By the decree of the Commissioners, made thereupon, and dated 10th April, 1612, Thomas Maynett, esquire, and 11 others, therein named, as being the sufficientest freeholders and holders within the said parish, were nominated feoffees of the said lands, tenements, hereditaments, and monies; and it was ordered, that the rents and profits thereof should be employed to the respective uses above mentioned in the inquisition; and it was further ordered, that the feoffees and overseers should, once every year, make a just and true account of their employing the premises aforesaid, to two justices of the peace of the county of Oxford, next adjoining the said town of Deddington, if required; and it was further ordered, that no leases should be made thereafter, on fines, but only for a yearly rent, nearabout the yearly value thereof; and that upon the death or disability of any of the feoffees, the rest of the feoffees should nominate and appoint others, so that there should be always, if possible, six at the fewest, living.

By a decree, made under a commission of charitable uses, and dated 30th September, 1627, referring to the decree

\* The benefaction alluded to appears not to have been a rent-charge, but part of the interest of a sum of £100, bequeathed by Walter Calcott, to be lent out to five or ten persons, at 5 per cent interest. See Report of Charities in Banbury, p. 22.

above mentioned, and reciting, that, since the said decree, *John Norwood* had, by will, given to the poor of the parish of *Deddington* £5, to remain as a stock, the profits thereof to redound to the benefit of the poor of the said parish.

That *John Appletree*, by will, had given £5, for the like purpose.

That *Richard Appletree*, then living, had given £5, to the like purpose.

That *James Arys*, by will, had given 40s, for the like purpose.

And that *Richard Appletree* had likewise given, towards the maintenance of the north aisle of the church of *Deddington*, 6s 8d yearly, to be paid out of two acres of meadow, in *Deddington*.

And further reciting, that the feoffees had digressed from the directions of the former decree, and had made leases at an under value, on petty fines; and that divers of the old feoffees were dead, or become incapable of acting; it was ordered, that the survivors should enfeof other persons, therein mentioned, in trust, of and in all the lands and tenements theretofore given to the use of the poor, the repair of the church, the payment of fifteenths, and other charitable uses, in the parish of *Deddington*; and it was further ordered, that no lease should thereafter be made for lives, or above the term of 40 years, nor in reversion, nor except upon the best improved rents, and without fine; and that the said feoffees should keep an account of their yearly receipts and disbursements, and should yearly, in Easter week, make their account of the same, before three of the next justices of the peace for the said county, and the overseers of the said parish for the time being, or the most part of them, so that one justice, at least, should be present; and that when there should be only five feoffees surviving, they should enfeof two of the inhabitants of the said parish, to the use of themselves, and five more inhabitants, to be named and approved of by three of the next justices of the peace, and the churchwardens and overseers; and liberty was given to the said feoffees, within three years after the date of this decree, to purchase lands in fee simple, with the stock which should be in their hands, with the approbation of three of the next justices of the peace, and overseers of the said parish.

New feoffees have been appointed from time to time.

By deed poll, dated 5th July, 1818, reciting the decree made 30th September, 1627, and further reciting, that there were then five feoffees only living; it is witnessed, that they viz. *William Appletree*, *Thomas Churchill*, *Thomas Fidkin*,

*Hundred of Woolton.*

Samuel Churchill, and Henry Dean, the then survivors enfeoffed Samuel Churchill Field, John Churchill, William Griffin, Henry Churchill, and William Allen, sufficient men, and inhabitants of the said parish, named and approved of by William Wilson, esq. and two others, justices of the peace of the county of Oxford, and by the churchwardens and overseers of and in all the lands, tenements, annuities, stocks of money, and profits, given to charitable uses, in the parish of Deddington, to the use of the said survivors, and the said Samuel Churchill Field, and others, and their heirs, in trust, to employ the rents and profits thereof, according to the intention of the donors, and the direction of the said decree.

The property now in the possession of the feoffees, consists of the following premises :—

An allotment of pasture land, adjoining to Deddington pest-house, containing 14A. 2R. 33P. set out to the feoffees in two allotments, upon the inclosure of the parishes of Deddington and Great Barford, (in lieu of one yard land, in Deddington, and divers odd lands in Great Barford, with the common rights thereto belonging), now in the occupation of Eleanor Churchill, at the yearly rent of £35.

A parcel of arable and pasture land in Deddington, adjoining the last-mentioned allotment, containing 11A. 3R. 30P. also in the occupation of Eleanor Churchill, at the yearly rent of £30.

These lands were conveyed to the feoffees by indenture, dated 10th October, 1810, by William Wilson, of Nether Worton, esquire, in exchange for a close of pasture land, situate in Over Worton, commonly called the Poor's close, containing 12A. and 22P. and also a coppice or spinny in Over Worton, called the Poor's spinny, containing 1R. and 18P., the said William Wilson also paying £500 for the exchange, to the said trustees, which sum is stated to be double the amount of what would have been a fair equivalent.

A small close of pasture land, near Deddington turnpike, now in the occupation of William Knibbs, at the yearly rent of £1. 10s.

A piece of land, with a stable thereon, in a place called the Tower, now in the occupation of Frances Manning, at the yearly rent of 12s.

The Town-hall, or Town-house, used for the public town meetings, and for a court-house, with three stalls under the same, used by the butchers on market days, one of which was, at the time of our enquiry, let to Edward Colegrove, at the yearly rent of 4s., but the others were not let.



A cottage, with outbuildings and garden, in Deddington, in the occupation of William Busby, at the yearly rent of £4. 4s.

Another cottage, with outbuildings and garden, now occupied as two tenements; and in the several occupations of John Wilkins and Richard Bliss, at the yearly rent, together, of £5. 12s.

The premises in the occupation of Busby, Wilkins, and Bliss, were set out, in 1808, upon the inclosure of the parishes of Deddington and Great Barford, to the feoffees, (in lieu of three several freehold cottages, with the outbuildings, gardens, and appurtenances which were allotted to Sir Henry Watkin Dashwood), by the description of a cottage, or tenement, with the outbuildings, yard, garden, and appurtenances, in the New-street, in Deddington, containing 29 perches, and a cottage, or tenement, with the outbuildings, yard, garden, and appurtenances; in or near Philcock-street, in Deddington, containing seven perches.

Another cottage, with outbuildings and garden, now in the occupation of Edward Taylor, at the yearly rent of £2. 10s.

Another cottage, with outbuildings and garden, now in the occupation of Jonas Burberow, at the yearly rent of £1. 6s.

Another cottage, with outbuildings and garden, held by the overseers, at the yearly rent of £1. 6s.

Another cottage, with outbuildings and garden, held by the overseers, at the yearly rent of £2. 10s.

Another cottage, with outbuildings and garden, now in the occupation of John Benbow, at the yearly rent of £2. 10s.

Four newly-built cottages, adjoining together, situate in the Church-lane, with outbuildings and yard, now occupied as almshouses.

Part of these last-mentioned premises were conveyed by indenture, dated 11th October, 1820, to the feoffees, by John Galtcott, in consideration of £75, by the description of a messuage, or tenement, with the shop, outbuildings, yard, and garden ground, in the Church-lane. The rest of the premises had belonged to the feoffees before, and the cottage which had stood thereon; as well as that purchased, was pulled down for the building the almshouses there.

One cottage, with outbuildings and gardens, in Hempton, in the parish of Deddington, now occupied as two tenements, and in the occupations of Richard Shovel and John Simons, at the yearly rents, together, of £3.

And an allotment of arable land in Bloxham, containing

*Hundred of Wootton.*

# CHARITIES AT DEDDINGTON.

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16A. 2R. 8P. with a barn and other buildings thereon, set out to the feoffees upon the inclosure, by the award, dated 16th January, 1802, in lieu of one yard land, in the common fields, with the appurtenances. These premises are now let to William Willis, at the yearly rent of £41. 5s.

These are fair rents, and all the tenants hold from year to year. The premises in the occupation of Eleanor Churchill were let by tender, and the feoffees have lately found it necessary to make some abatement.

The property above-mentioned is the whole of what is now, or has been, in the memory of any living person, in the possession of the feoffees, except that there is paid to them by the owner of the Plough public-house, in Deddington, the yearly sum of 1s, which is supposed to be in the nature of a quit-rent.

The £300, which was paid by Mr. Wilson, is in the hands of Mr. Samuel Churchill, who has allowed interest for it, up to the present time, at the rate of five per cent. It is intended to place this money out upon some security, or to purchase land with it.

The income arising from the sources above-mentioned, now amounting to.....	£.	s.	d.
Is, in the first place, subject to the following deductions:—	146	10	-
For quit-rents, per annum .....	17	6	
Land-tax, per annum .....	3	12	9
Repairs, on an average, taken upon the expenditure of the last five years, about, per annum.....	45	-	-
Charge for keeping the accounts, per annum .....	2	2	-
	51	12	3
Leaving a clear income of about .....	139	17	9

But in the last five years there have been allowed abatements to the tenants, amounting in the whole to £51. 5s 2d.

Previous to the year 1818, a few sums were given to poor persons, in charity, out of this income, and the remainder was paid to the account of the poor-rate. This practice had prevailed for a great number of years.

In 1818, new feoffees were appointed, and they immediately took the application of the charity into their consideration, and, thinking that it had been theretofore improperly disposed of, they determined to build some almshouses for the reception of poor persons, and to give them a certain weekly allowance, and some articles of clothing.

To carry this into effect, some premises in Deddington were purchased of John Calcott, as above-mentioned, and a substantial building was erected, containing four apartments on the ground floor, and four above.

The sum thus expended amounted to about £653. viz. :—

	£.	s.	d.
The purchase of the premises.....	75	-	-
Conveyance of ditto, about .....	25	-	-
Building the almshouses, about .....	553	-	-
	£.	653	-

At a meeting of the feoffees, held 1st April, 1822, the following rules were agreed upon, for the admission of persons into the almshouses, and for the government of the persons admitted:—

That four poor men and four poor women should be admitted, and continued therein during their lives, unless removed for disobedience, or otherwise.

That they should be widowers, or widows, or single unmarried persons of the age of 60 years or upwards, parishioners of Deddington.

That no person should be admitted or continued there, unless such person should be of the established church, of fair and honest name or fame, nor unless such person should regularly, decently, and devoutly, attend divine service at the church, and not elsewhere.

That there should be provided for each of the men a hat and great coat; for each of the women a bonnet and cloak, of uniform colour; and for each house two bedsteads, with flock beds, four chairs, one table, a grate, and set of fire irons; that such clothes and furniture should be provided and supplied as often as should be found necessary, and should continue the property of the feoffees, and, upon death or removal, be delivered up to them.

That, in case any person should offend against these rules, by disorderly or improper conduct, or become, in the opinion of the major part of the feoffees, unfit, or unworthy, longer to enjoy the benefit of the charity, they should displace such person, and appoint another in his or her stead.

The persons to be elected by ballot, at a meeting, held after seven days' notice given to the feoffees, and in writing upon the church door, by the receiver of the charity lands.

That the allowances should, until further order, be 4s a week to each man, and 3s a week to each woman, to commence from the 7th April, 1822.

Four poor men, and four poor women, have been appointed to these houses.

Each person receives the allowance in money, according to the regulations above-mentioned, except in one instance, where a man receives only 1s a week, as he has a weekly allowance of 3s, from a benefit society; but this deviation

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from the rules will be taken into consideration at the next meeting of the feoffees.

No clothing has hitherto been provided, on account of the insufficiency of the income for that purpose, until the debts, incurred by the building the almshouses, are paid off.

At the end of the year 1823, there was a balance against the charity of £163. 4s 2d, the payments having been made in advance by Mr. Samuel Churchill. For these advances, he charges interest at the same rate as he pays interest for the £300, which was placed in his hands on the exchange above mentioned, the feoffees thinking it advisable that that sum should be preserved as principal.

The accounts are audited annually, at a meeting of the feoffees and the overseers; the feoffees also meet at another period of the year, for the purpose of receiving the rents, and paying bills.

As soon as the debt is paid off, there will be a surplus income beyond what will be required for the weekly allowances, which amount to £72. 16s per annum, and the providing the inmates of the almshouses with clothing, according to the regulations of 1822. It has not, however, been determined, at present, in what manner such surplus shall be applied.

#### CARTWRIGHT'S CHARITY.

The sum of £6. 1s 4d is paid annually, by William Ralph Cartwright, esq. as charged upon a farm in Deddington, in the occupation of Henry Dean.

In the marriage settlement of the said William Ralph Cartwright, dated 8th April, 1794, certain estates in Aynho, Hinton, Souldern, Deddington, Clifton, and Hempton, were settled, and, in the covenant against incumbrances, there is the following clause; other than and except a certain annual sum of £6. 1s 4d, issuing and payable for ever out of all or some part of the lands hereby conveyed, to the poor of Deddington, for bread, created or given by the will of the said Richard Cartwright. [Dated 1st February, 1633.]

This money is paid to a baker, and he supplies 14 two-penny loaves every Sunday, which are given away by the minister at the church, after Divine service, amongst the poor who attend, unless there are any who are prevented by illness.

#### PARISH OF DUNSTEW.

##### LOANS.

There are in this parish some bequests, said to have been left many years since, to be advanced on loan, to the occupiers

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of land, at interest, and to poor tradesmen, without interest, but it is not known when or by whom they were made.

There are now five sums of £5 each, which were lent on bond to the following persons:—

	£.	s.	d.
1782, April 3, John Hatton and William Hatton .....	5	—	—
1788, May 3, Thomas Nicholls and John Wells .....	5	—	—
1789, Dec. 3, Ann Cross, William Cross, and John Hatton .....	5	—	—
1790, Nov. 20, James Castle and James Baker .....	5	—	—
1793, Feb. 2, Thomas Willis .....	5	—	—

These sums are all lent, without interest, and the parties, or their representatives, are able to pay the principal, when required.

There is also the sum of £8, now in the hands of William Matthews, which was lent to his father in 1791, on a promissory note, for which he pays interest 8s, as his father used to do.

There is also the sum of £10, in the hands of the Rev. William Gorden, the vicar, arising from two sums of £5, which had been lent out at interest, and have lately been paid in. He holds them, ready to lend out when proper persons apply for them, or to dispose of them in any way that may be thought more advisable. He pays five per cent interest.

There are, amongst the parish documents, bonds for four other sums, amounting to £17; but, from the insolvency of the parties, they must be considered as lost.

The interest of the several sums of £10 and £8, amounting to 18s, is given away, together with 5s from another charity, and the rent of an allotment, set out upon the inclosure, in lieu of a right of cutting furze, now let at 12 guineas a year, in money and coals to the poor at Christmas.

### CHAMBERLAYNE'S GIFT.

*Betty Clerk Chamberlayne*, who died in 1819, left £5. 5s, to be distributed amongst the poor of Dunstew, in any manner her executors should think proper.

The sum of 5s was given away, and the remaining £5 was placed in the hands of the Rev. William Gorden, the vicar, who allows yearly 5s interest for it. It is added to the money and coal distribution, at Christmas, as before mentioned.

## PARISH OF GLYMPTON.

### TESDALE'S CHARITY.

The yearly sum of 6s 8d is paid by the tenant of Ludwell farm, in the parish of Wootton, the property of Sir Henry *Hundred of Wootton*.

Dashwood, bart. ; this rent-charge is supposed to have been derived from Maud, the widow of Thomas Tesdale, who died 1616, and who, as it is stated on her monument in Glympton church, was a benefactor to this parish. The sum of 6s 8d is received yearly by Mrs. Way, of Glympton Park, and is distributed by her amongst the poor, with other money, which she voluntarily adds to it.

## PARISH OF SANDFORD.

### GILES'S CHARITY.

The only account we have of the origin of this charity is derived from an indenture, dated 11th August, 1756, whereby William Meades and Ann Roberts, in consideration of £20, which is stated to be the remainder of the money bequeathed by *Thomas Giles*, for the use of the poor of Sandford, conveyed to Samuel Wilmot, the surviving trustee for the said legacy, his heirs, and assigns, four acres of arable land, lying dispersed in the open fields of Westcott Barton, in trust, for the only benefit and behoof of the poor of the parish of Sandford.

There was probably other land belonging to this charity, besides what was conveyed by the above abstracted indenture, as it appears, that, upon the inclosure of the fields in Westcott Barton and Middle Barton, about 11 acres were set out in lieu of the charity lands to Mary Hayward, the heir-at-law of the said Samuel Wilmot.

By indenture of feoffment, dated 18th July, 1799, the lands so set out were conveyed by Thomas Walker and three others, the devisees of the said Mary Hayward, to James Taylor, William Taylor, Edward Walker, Edward Hollis, Thomas Davis, Thomas Dee, and Edward Busby, all of Sandford, their heirs, and assigns, upon trust, for the benefit and behoof of the poor of the parish of Sandford.

These lands now form one close of arable land, and let to Thomas Jarvis, as yearly tenant, at £15 per annum, which is the full value.

This rent is added to that of an allotment made to the poor, in Sandford field, in lieu of a right of cutting furze, and which now produces £10 a year, and the whole is laid out in the purchase of coals, at Christmas, which are given to the poor, according to the number in family. Last year, single persons had about four cwt., and large families eight or nine cwt.

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### MEADS'S CHARITY.

There is a close, of about six acres and a half of arable land, in Barford St. Michael, which is understood to have been given by *Henry Meads*, but there are no documents in the parish relating to it.

This land is let to *Thomas Hollier*, of Hampton, as yearly tenant, at £8 a year, which is stated to be a fair rent.

Out of this, £4. 4s is paid to a schoolmaster, for teaching 10 poor boys of Sandford, and £2. 2s to a schoolmistress, for teaching five girls. These children are appointed by the churchwardens, and the number is always kept full. Of the remainder, 5s is paid to the parish clerk, and 29s is given away in bread, about Christmas.

### LOCK'S LEGACY.

On the monument, erected to the memory of *John Lock*, in Sandford church, there is the following inscription:—

“Here lieth, interred near this place, the body of *John Lock*, gentleman, who gave to the poor of this parish the interest of £40, to be yearly distributed in bread, for ever. He departed this life, March 3rd, 1710-11, aged 77.”

It is stated, that *William Taylor*, esquire, who died 44 years ago, used to give away some meat at Christmas, and that part of the money, with which the meat was bought, was supposed to be the interest of the legacy above mentioned.

Nothing has been given away since the death of *Mr. Taylor*, and it was understood, that the distribution of meat ceased three or four years previously thereto.

As there are no means of ascertaining whether *Mr. Taylor* really had this £40 in his hands, it is impossible now to call upon his representatives for the amount.

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## PARISH OF OVER WORTON.

### BREAD MONEY.

The returns of 1786, relating to this parish, mention a rent-charge of £1. 14s 8d, to be given to two poor widows, in bread; but there is no date or name of the donor given.

Bread, to the amount of 8d, weekly, is paid for by *William Wilson*, esq. the owner of the whole of this parish, and given to one poor family, by the appointment of the overseers.

This payment is supposed to have been charged upon the estate by a former owner.

*Hundred of Wootton.*

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## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.**

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### **HUNDRED OF CLIPPING WARDEN.**

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#### **PARISH OF BYFIELD.**

##### **CUSTOMARY DONATION OF WHEAT.**

**B**Y ancient usage, there are provided and given to the poor of Byfield, and Westrop, a hamlet in the parish, 48 pecks of wheat yearly, by the rector. The custom is recognized and confirmed by an Act of Parliament, passed in 1779, for the inclosure of the parish ; and the specified quantity of wheat is distributed regularly on St. Thomas's day, partly by the rector, and partly by the churchwardens, among the poor persons, considered most proper objects of the charity.

##### **THE POOR'S ALLOTMENT.**

In pursuance of the directions of the Inclosure Act, an allotment of 17A. 2R. 34P. was awarded to the rector, the lord of the manor, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor of Byfield and Westrop, in trust, to apply the rents in coal, wood, or other fuel, for the use of such of the poor of the parish, and in such shares and proportions, as the trustees should think proper.

The land is let yearly, by tender, to the best bidder, and is let this year at the rent of £46.

It has been usual, of late, to apply the rents towards purchasing and defraying the expense of carriage of a quantity of coals, to the amount, in general, of 150 tons, and to sell the coals at reduced prices, during the winter, to any persons in the parish, the money paid for the coals being applied in the same manner as the rent of the land ; but the rents not being always sufficient to make up the difference between the original expense of purchase and carriage, and the produce of the sale, the deficiency, when it arises, has been made good out of the funds raised by the poor rates. The purchase and sale of the coals have been under the management or direction of the parish officers, or an assistant overseer em-



played by them; the lord of the manor not having interfered, and there having been, until lately, no resident rector for some time. Some inconvenience has resulted from this course of administration, and persons, not fit to be considered objects of charity, have occasionally taken the opportunity of purchasing coals from the stock at the reduced rate, insisting on a right so to do, by reason of the fund being in part made up out of the poor rates. In order to remove the inconveniences which have arisen, we have recommended that the rents of the allotment should be kept unmixed, and applied separately, for providing coals or fuel, and that such coals or fuel should be given away, or sold at reduced rates, under the immediate order of the trustees themselves, to such poor persons only as they consider most entitled to the benefit of the charity.

#### THE CAUSEWAY LAND.

This property, which was derived under a gift of *Thomas Shawe*, by deed, dated 6th June, 13 Henry 8, for repairing the common churchways in Byfield, and other charitable uses there, consists, in its present state, of six cottages, or tenements, and of an allotment of 10A. 2R. 26P. in the parish of Byfield, awarded on the inclosure, in lieu of open field lands and common-right. The estate is vested in trustees, by deed of the 11th May, 1793. Ten persons were named as trustees in that deed, and five of them are now living, but two only of that number usually act in the management of the trust.

The cottages are let to the overseers of the poor, at the annual rent of 18s, and are inhabited by poor people. The land is let annually to the highest bidder, and is this year let at a rent of £26. 10s.

The rents are applied towards keeping in repair the causeways or footways leading to the church; but it is stated that the churchways are in bad repair, in consequence of the most judicious method of repairing them not having been adopted.

The accounts are kept by one of the trustees, and there is a balance in hand at present of £21. 15s 3d. There is also due a year's rent from Mr. James Smith, amounting to £31. 15s, which he has for some time improperly retained in his hands, under a claim to be entitled to act as a trustee, for which there is no sufficient reason. He has lately, however, undertaken to pay the money.

Preparations are making for the more effectual repair of the churchways, by the trustees, and 50 or 60 loads of stone have been collected, and made ready for the purpose, the expense of which is to be defrayed out of the money in hand.

*Hundred of Chipping Warden.*

There is an ancient school-room in Byfield, which is vested in the trustees, and has for some time been conveyed to the successive trustees, together with the causeway land. The building was purchased in 1725, with a sum of £20, being the amount of two legacies, left by the Rev. *Thomas Knightley* and the Rev. *Richard Knightley*, for the purpose, with the interest thereof, of employing poor people in spinning. The school-room used to be let to a schoolmaster, at the annual rent of 20s, and the rent was given away among the poor; but since, a yearly payment of 12 guineas, which used to be paid to the schoolmaster, by the rector of the parish, for instructing poor children, has been discontinued, the school-room has been held by the master rent free.

It is proper that new trustees should be appointed of the Causeway land.

#### GREENWOOD'S GIFT.—THE SCHOOL.

*Samuel Greenwood*, by will, dated 12th October, 1698, gave £3 a year for the instructing of poor children, in the parish of Byfield, to be issuing out of certain lands in the parishes of Byfield and of Woodford.

The sum of £2. 14s a year, (the land-tax being deducted from the rent-charge,) is paid in the sums of £1. 16s, by *Thomas Carter, esq.* for the land in Byfield, and 18s, by *Mr. William Seaton*, for the land in Woodford, to a schoolmaster, for teaching seven poor children to read. The schoolmaster has the use of the school-room above-mentioned, and keeps a school there, in which the seven children and others are taught.

The late rectors of this parish, for a considerable time, used to pay 12 guineas a year to the schoolmaster, for teaching 20 poor boys to read, and also made some annual allowance to two women for teaching poor girls. These payments were discontinued by the late rector, and there is no evidence to show that they were other than voluntary donations. The present rector has not resumed the practice of his predecessors, but he has for several years maintained a school for about 20 boys and 30 girls, and has lately opened an infants' school, for children between the ages of two and six years.

#### SIR JOHN KNIGHTLEY'S GIFT.

The Rev. *Sir John Knightley*, baronet, by a codicil, dated the 23d June, 1802, gave to the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor, of Byfield, £100, and directed the interest thereof to be applied for supporting a Sunday school at Byfield.

The funds to answer this and several similar benefactions, by the testator, are vested in stock, standing in the name of the accountant-general of the court of Chancery, and the sum of £2. 17s 6d per annum is paid to the master of the above-mentioned school, for teaching a Sunday school in Byfield; but, in consequence of the expense attending the receipt of the money from the accountant-general's office, the payment is not called for or received every year.

#### EDWARDS'S CHARITY.

*Thomas Edwards*, by will, proved in 1725, gave £10, the interest thereof to be laid out in bread, and given to the poor of Byfield, at the discretion of the minister, churchwardens, and chief inhabitants, at the parish church, on the 13th day of February, or the nearest Sunday to it.

The sum of 10s a year is paid, in respect of this gift, as a charge on a house in Byfield, in the occupation of Mrs. Burbidge, widow. The money is laid out in bread, and is distributed in the church on Midlent Sunday, or soon afterwards.

## HUNDRED OF PAWSLEY.

### PARISHES OF BADBY AND NEWNHAM.

#### COLES'S GIFT.

The sum of £3. 18s a year is payable to the poor of Badby, as a rent-charge upon a close in the parish of Badby, called the Bread Close, containing between five and six acres, and now belonging to Mrs. Josephine Barnes, of Staverton.

The donation is mentioned, on a board in the church at Badby, as the gift of *Thomas Coles*, in 1783, to six of the poorest inhabitants of the town of Badby, to be distributed in threepenny loaves, at the direction of the minister and churchwardens, every Sunday, after service, a loaf to each.

The rent-charge is regularly received, and laid out in bread, which is distributed to six poor persons of Badby, in the manor directed by the donor.

#### SIR JOHN KNIGHTLEY'S BENEFACTION.

The late Rev. Sir *John Knightley*, baronet, by a codicil to his will, dated 23d June, 1802, bequeathed the sum of  
*Hundred of Chipping Warden.*

## CHARITIES AT BADBY AND NEWNHAM. 171

£200, for the support of a Sunday school at Newnham; and the sum of £150, for the support of a Sunday school at Badby.

By an order of the court of Chancery, dated 7th August, 1813, in a suit of *Brook v. Woodman*, certain stock in the three per cents was appropriated to answer the above and other charitable bequests of a like nature, given by the testator, and the funds were directed to be transferred into and now stand in the name of the accountant-general, to the account of the ministers and churchwardens of the respective parishes.

The fund appropriated to Badby consists of £191. 17s 2d, and that to Newnham of £140. 4s 9d in the three per cent consols; the dividends on which are received by the minister of Badby and Newnham. Of the dividends received for Badby, amounting to £5. 15s a year, £4. 4s is applied in payment of the master's salary of a Sunday school at Badby, and the residue is laid out in books, and small articles of clothing, which are given away as rewards to the children who make the greatest proficiency in learning. The dividends on the stock belonging to Newnham amount to £4. 4s per annum, the whole of which sum is paid to the master of the Sunday school there.

The sum of £40 is mentioned in the Returns to Parliament, in 1786, to have been given by ——— *Thornton*, to the poor of Newnham, and to have been then vested in the churchwarden; but no such fund exists at present, or is now remembered, and there are no entries relating to any such charity to be found in the township books.

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## PARISH OF DAVENTRY.

### THE FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

*William Parker* the elder, citizen and draper of London, by will, dated 6th April, 1576, devised to Agnes, his wife, his manor of Upwicke Hall, and all his lands thereto belonging, in Aldbury, Stortford, and Little Hadham, in the county of Herts, and Farnham, in the county of Essex, and all his lands and hereditaments in those towns, to hold to her for her life, upon condition, that she should find an honest discreet man to keep a grammar school, and to instruct children, to the number of 50 scholars, in the science of grammar, in Daventry, and pay yearly at four feasts, or within six weeks, by equal division, £20 to the schoolmaster and Northamptonshire.

usher, viz. £15 to the schoolmaster, and £5 to the usher; and that she should pay yearly, at the said feasts, by equal portions, £10 to the relief of six poor persons in the town of Daventry; and if she made default in payment thereof, then he devised the said manor and lands to the use of William Parker, the younger, and his heirs, upon the like condition; and, on his default, to the use of Robert Dickenson, and his heirs, upon trust, that he would make the said payments at the said days; and, on his default, then to the use of the bailiff of Daventry, and his successors.

By a decree of the court of Chancery, dated the 8th November, 44th Queen Elizabeth, made in a suit, wherein Henry Allen, the then bailiff, and the burgesses and commonality of the borough of Daventry, were complainants, and Humphrey Corbet, and Agnes his wife, (late Agnes the wife of the testator William Parker,) the said William Parker the younger, the said Robert Dickenson, and John Crosse, described as heir at law of the testator, were defendants, reciting the will, and that a question had arisen whether the payments and school were, by the intent of the devisor, to have continuance for ever; and further stating, that, notwithstanding such question, it was fully assented unto by the defendant Humphrey Corbet, who had both the estate for life in the said manor, lands, and premises, and had also acquired the estate in remainder and interest of the said William Parker the younger, in the same, that the several sums of £15, £5, and £10, should go and be paid out of the said manor, lands, and premises, for ever, by the owners and occupiers thereof for the time being; and that the said John Crosse, also the heir at law of the said William Parker, the devisor, being then present in court, gave his full consent that the said school, payments, and charitable uses, should have continuance for ever; it was ordered and decreed, that the defendants and the said Humphrey Corbet, his heirs, and assigns, and all other persons which, for the time being, should have the said manor, lands, and tenements, should, from thenceforth, for ever, not only provide an honest, discreet, learned, and able schoolmaster, and usher, to teach a free grammar school, in the town of Daventry, but should also pay, or cause to be paid, to the said schoolmaster and usher, and six poor people, the several yearly sums of £15, £5, and £10, respectively, at the feasts of St. Thomas the Apostle, the Annunciation, the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, and St. Michael the Archangel, or within six weeks next after any of the said feasts, by equal portions, and that, as any of the six poor people should die, or for reasonable cause be re-

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moved, the bailiff and recorder of the town and borough of Daventry should give the names of three poor people of the town and borough, unto the said Hugh Corbet and Agnes his wife, and the heirs and assigns of the said Hugh Corbet, out of which, they or one of them should appoint one to supply the room of one of the six poor people so deceased, or removed; and that the owners of the said manor, lands, and tenements, for the time being, should have the nomination of a schoolmaster and usher unto the bishop of Peterborough, for the time being, as often as the said places, or either of them, should be void; and that the persons so nominated, being allowed by the said bishop, should be schoolmaster and usher of the school, until, by death or other reasonable cause, the said places, or either of them, should become void.

The yearly sums of £15, £5, and £10, mentioned in the will and decree, are paid by C. T. Stacey, John Hawkins, and W. H. Nares, esqrs. as proprietors of the manor and lands mentioned in the will.

*John Sawbridge*, in 1740, gave £150, towards purchasing a house for the master of the grammar school, and his brother *Edward Sawbridge*, in his life-time, gave £100 for the same purpose. These donations, together with £30, given by the corporation of Daventry, were laid out in 1768, in the purchase of a house, but, it being found, some time afterwards, that the house was inconvenient and unsuitable for the master's residence, it was sold, with his consent, in 1779, for £367, which sum was laid out in the purchase of £400, four per cents, now three and a half per cent bank annuities, standing in the names of the Rev. Samuel Smith, D.D. of Christ Church, and three other trustees.

A house in Cow-lane, in Daventry, containing two large rooms, was erected shortly before the year 1602, as a school for the use of this foundation, and continues to be appropriated for that purpose; at present, however, the upper room is used as a national school. The school building and site thereof were conveyed, by a deed of feoffment, dated the 10th August, 1602, to Robert Spencer, and others, to the use of the bailiff, burgessess, and commonalty, of Daventry; and the ordinary repairs of the school are usually done at the expense of the corporation.

The present master was appointed in 1823, by the above named proprietors of the manor and lands mentioned in the will, and he receives yearly as his salary the stipend of £15, the usher's stipend of £5, and the dividends of the

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£400, three and a half per cent stock. In consequence probably of the smallness of the usher's stipend, no usher has been appointed for many years past.

The school is considered free for grammatical instruction in the learned languages, to the sons of parishioners of Daventry, not exceeding 50 in number, and the master professes himself ready to communicate such instruction gratuitously to any boys properly qualified, who may be sent to him; but as he has no scholars from a distance, and does not by himself or an assistant teach English grammar, writing, or arithmetic, none of the parishioners of Daventry avail themselves of the foundation. It does not appear that the school has been ever much resorted to for the purpose of a free education in classical learning, but, during the time of the last master, who had the school about 30 years, and kept an usher for teaching English and the inferior branches of learning, a considerable number of boys, both from the town and neighbourhood, were brought up in the school. One application, which was made to the present master for the admission of a boy as a free scholar was withdrawn, in consequence of no provision being made for instruction in writing and accounts, and we do not find that any other scholars have been offered to him, except in the instance of a physician in Daventry, who has two boys at present under his care, but these boys are instructed in the master's house, and not altogether on the footing of free scholars, as something is paid for teaching them; though, as the master states, the charge is less, on account of their being entitled to the freedom of the school, than it otherwise would be.

#### JOHN FARRAR'S GIFT TO THE MASTER OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

*John Farrar*, by will, dated 29th March, 1729, gave £400 to five trustees, to purchase land, but not houses, and pay the rents thereof to the master of the grammar school of Daventry, if he should be in holy orders, upon condition, that he should read morning and evening prayers, every Sunday in the year, though an holiday, and also read every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, in the year, except when either of those days should be a holiday, morning prayers in the parish church of Daventry, according to the usage of the church of England; and also that he should at all times assist the minister of Daventry, in administering the holy sacrament, as often as such minister should think fit to administer the same; but, if there should be no schoolmaster, or such school-

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master should not be in holy orders, or should neglect or refuse compliance with those conditions, then he directed his trustees, during such time, to find such person or persons as they should think fit, to read prayers, and assist the minister as aforesaid, and pay him the rents of the lands so to be purchased, his will being that prayers should be read in the church of Daventry in manner as aforesaid, the minister reading prayers on all holidays, Wednesdays, and Fridays : Provided, that when any three of the trustees should die, the survivors should elect more persons, inhabitants of the parish of Daventry, within six months, to be trustees, in the room of them so dying, so as the trustees should never exceed five in number, and so as the persons to be elected, for three years before their election should have received the holy sacrament, according to the usage of the church of England, and, during that time, should not have been at any other place or meeting of worship beside the church of England.

The sum of £400 was laid out in the purchase of a messuage, and several closes, in Cosford, in the parish of Newbold-upon-Avon, containing together 22 acres, or thereabouts, which were conveyed by indenture, dated 3d June, 1738, to Edward Sawbridge, and three others, and were lately, by indentures of lease and release, dated 6th and 7th June, 1821, conveyed to the Rev. Samuel Smith, D.D. William Watkins, esq. Charles Rattray, M.D. John Wildgose, surgeon, and Robert Wildgose, surgeon, upon the trusts of the will.

Some time ago, a small part of the estate was sold to the proprietors of the Oxford Canal, and the purchase money was laid out in stock, amounting to £125, three per cent consols, which is standing in the names of Charles Watkins, senior, and Joseph Freeman, both now deceased, and produces a dividend of £3. 15s a year.

The estate is let to William Norman, as yearly tenant, at the annual rent of £39. 14s 9d.

The rent is received by the trustees, and is paid, together with the dividends of the stock, to the master of the grammar school, for performing the duties required by the will,

A fall of timber took place on this estate in 1821, the produce of which was applied in the repairs of the grammar school.

#### THE ENGLISH CHARITY SCHOOL.

This school is under the direction of the minister of the parish of Daventry, and the bailiff of Daventry, for the time being, and nine other inhabitants of Daventry, as trustees.

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*Edward Maynard, D.D.* by will, dated 20th December, 1736, gave to the corporation of Daventry £200, towards settling and maintaining a charity school there, for teaching poor children to read, write, and cast accounts, under such standing regulations as should be agreed upon by the bailiff and minister of Daventry, for the time being, and two persons named in the will; and he directed, that, upon the demise of either of the latter, the three surviving trustees should, within a week, choose a fourth person into the trust.

This legacy, together with a legacy of £10, given by *William Sawbridge* in 1719, the interest thereof for teaching poor boys, and the donations of £40, by *Mrs. Shuckburgh Bromwich*, £10 by *Thomas Wilson*, £50 by *John Sawbridge*, and £300 given by *Thomas Thornton*, at the desire of *Catherine Combe*, of whom he was executor, (all which were given for purposes of education generally, or to the charity school,) were laid out in the year 1745, together with other benefactions for different charitable purposes, in the purchase of an estate at Cosford, in the county of Northampton, the property of *Edward Sawbridge, esq.* It is stated in the deed of conveyance that the whole amount of the purchase money was £1,240, and that the estate was valued at £1,500, but that *Mr. Sawbridge* was willing to contribute the overplus in value of the estate for the charitable purposes for which the funds were given, but more especially for augmenting the revenue of the charity school. Further particulars of the deed of conveyance in trust will be mentioned below.

The charity school is further supported by an annual rent-charge of £6, given to the minister and churchwardens, by the will of *Nathaniel Lord Crewe*, Bishop of Durham, for teaching a poor boy, and by an annual payment of £4, given by *Edward Sawbridge, esq.* in 1772, to the master of the charity school, to increase his salary. The annuity of £6 is charged on certain premises in Hull, and is paid by the trustees of Lord Crewe's charities, and the annuity of £4 is paid out of an estate at Boddington, appropriated to different charitable purposes, as after mentioned.

There also belongs to this charity the sum of £700, three per cent consols, standing in the names of trustees, and which was purchased by means of savings of income from time to time, and money arising from the sale of timber on the estate at Cosford.

The master of the school receives from the trustees a salary of £40 a year, and an allowance of £4. 16s a year for providing books and stationery, and he also receives Lord Crewe's annuity of £6, and £21 a year, being the dividends of the

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stock ; and he teaches the children of the charity school, and those attending the national school, now combined with the former. There are 24 boys in the charity school, and they are supplied with clothing by the trustees, out of the revenues arising from the Cosford estate, and money collected at an annual sermon preached for the benefit of this charity. The national school is open for the instruction of all poor children of Daventry. The scholars are instructed upon the Madras system, in reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Mr. Watkins, a banker in Daventry, one of the trustees, acts as treasurer, and keeps the accounts, which are examined occasionally by the other trustees.

*Peter Sutch*, in 1734, gave £100, the interest to be applied in putting out apprentice a boy from the charity school. This sum was also applied towards the purchase of the estate at Cosford, and apprentices are put out by the trustees, as occasions arise.

#### BREAD CHARITIES.

The sum of £60, given by *Bryan Abby*, in 1624, the interest to be given in bread to 12 poor persons, with the clerk and sexton, weekly ; and the further sum of £60, given by *Hannah Slough*, in 1684, the interest to be given in bread weekly ; were laid out in the purchase of a close at Drayton, in the parish of Daventry, containing three acres, or thereabouts, which is let to Elizabeth French, on lease, for seven years, from Lady-day, 1824, at the annual rent of £14, being the full annual value.\*

The sum of £100, bequeathed by *John Snart*, in 1744, to be laid out in land, or placed out at interest by the minister, bailiff, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor, and the interest thereof distributed in bread, every Sunday, to poor people of the parish, coming constantly to church, and approved of by the minister, bailiff, churchwardens, and overseers, was applied towards the purchase of the Cosford estate; and a proportion of the rents, now £9 a year, is applied for the purposes of Snart's bequest.

The annual income, arising from these two sources, is paid to the churchwardens, and by them laid out in bread, which is distributed weekly at church, after divine service.

#### CHARITIES FOR THE BEADSMEN.

**PARKER'S.**—The yearly sum of £10, given by the will of *William Parker*, for six poor person of the town of Daventry,

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\* The conveyance deed of this estate is not to be found.

as mentioned above, in the account of the free grammar school, is received from the proprietors of the estate therein mentioned, and is divided equally among six poor men of the parish, called beadsmen, who are chosen by the bailiff and burgesses, and receive the pension during life.

**SAWBRIDGE'S.**—*John Sawbridge*, by will, dated 11th August, 1740, bequeathed to the bailiff, burgesses, and commonalty, £100, and the interest thereof to the chamberlain, for the time being, in trust, that he should pay and dispose of the same amongst the six beadsmen, 4s a quarter to each; if the sum of £100 should produce five per cent, and 3s 2d a quarter if it should produce four per cent per annum; the chamberlain to retain the overplus of the interest for his own use.

This legacy of £100 formed part of the purchase-money of the Cosford estate, and the yearly sum of £9, which is paid at present in respect thereof, out of the rents, is divided equally among the six beadsmen.

**JOHN WATTERS'.**—*John Watters*, in 1762, gave £200, the interest thereof to be divided among the six beadsmen.

This donation, with other charity funds, is secured upon the Moothall, and other property of the corporation, as after mentioned; and interest thereon, at the rate of five per cent, is paid and divided among the beadsmen.

**WALFORD'S.**—*Mary Walford*, by will, dated 18th October, 1765, bequeathed to two trustees £100, to be laid out for the benefit of the six beadsmen, as the trustees should think proper.

This sum of £100 was laid out in buildings upon the charity estate at Boddington, hereafter mentioned; and, in respect thereof, a seventeenth part of the rents of the estate is distributed among the beadsmen.

#### CHARITIES FOR POOR WIDOWS.

**THOMPSON'S.**—*Frances Thompson*, by will, dated 21th June, 1736, gave to the bailiff, and four eldest burgesses of Daventry, £100, upon trust, to distribute the interest thereof on the 9th February, yearly, among 15 poor widows of the parish of Daventry, as they, or the major part of them, should think fit.

This legacy was applied towards purchasing the estate at Cosford, and a proportion of the rents, at present £9 a year, is distributed on the 9th February, among 15 poor widows, chosen by the bailiff and four of the senior burgesses.

**MARY WATTERS'.**—*Mary Watters*, in 1762, gave 100, the interest thereof to be given among poor widows, 5s to each.

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This sum of £100 is secured on the Moothall, and other property of the corporation. The interest thereof, £5 a year, is carried to the general fund for the poor, after mentioned; but, in respect of the gift, sums of 5s a piece are given out of the fund to poor widows of Daventry.

BROMWICH'S—*Eleanor Bromwich*, in 1762, gave £42, the interest thereof to be given to poor widows, or necessitous housekeepers, 5s a piece.

This fund is secured in the same manner as *Mary Watters's* gift, and the interest, £2. 2s. a year, is given among poor widows.

#### GENERAL CHARITY FUND FOR THE POOR.

The annual produce, arising from the several charitable donations, next mentioned, is formed into a general fund, and distributed half-yearly among the poor.

NEWTON'S AND DRYDEN'S.—*Timothy Newton*, in 1656, gave £100, the interest thereof for the indigent poor; and *Brannus Dryden*, in 1708, gave £100 for the same purposes. Both these funds are secured upon the Moothall, and other property of the corporation, at interest of five per cent.

FARMER'S.—*Richard Farmer*, of Daventry, by will, dated the 18th September, 1662, devised to his executors, all his messuages, cottages, glebe lands, tithes, and hereditaments, in Daventry and Drayton, held by him under lease from Christ Church College, in Oxford, and all his interest and term of years therein, upon trust, during the minority of Edward Farmer, therein named, to pay to the bailiff of Daventry, and his successors, and the three senior burgesses of the corporation of Daventry, £30 a year, to be paid at Lady-day and Michaelmas, in trust, that they should pay two parts thereof to the vicar of Daventry and his successors, and distribute the other third part thereof among the poor of the parish, at their discretion; and he willed, that, after the said Edward Farmer should accomplish his age of 21 years, his executors should assign the said premises, and their interest therein, unto him; or, if he should die under the age of 21 years, then to such persons as therein named; and he willed, that the said Edward Farmer, or the person or persons to whom the said term or terms for years, holden of the said college, should be by his executors assigned, should, out of the rents and profits thereof, during the said term or terms of years, to be assigned by his executors, and also during every other term or terms of years, which should thereafter be granted by the college, pay out of the rents and profits of the same, to the bailiff of Daventry and his successors, and the

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three senior burgesses of the said corporation, £30 a year, at the same times, and in trust, to distribute the same in the manner thereinbefore directed; and he willed, that the assignment, so to be made by his executors, as aforesaid, should be made in trust, for the payment of the said £30, in manner aforesaid; and he entreated and desired the said college of Christ Church to be as much as might be assisting to that his charitable intention, and that whenever they should make any new lease or grant of the premises, or any part thereof, they would, by way of trust or condition, or by some other way, provide that the premises, and every part thereof, might be charged with the payment of the said £30 per annum, to the uses aforesaid; and he desired the bailiff and burgesses, and the parishioners of Daventry, not to shorten their allowance to the poor by reason of that his gift, so that what he thereby gave might be for the advantage of the poor, and not of the rich.

The yearly sum of £30 is paid by William Rose Rose, esq. the present lessee of the great tithes and hereditaments, mentioned in the will. The sum of £20, part thereof, is paid to the minister, and the sum of £10 is carried to the general fund.

**WALFORD'S.**—*Mary Walford*, above-named, by her said will, bequeathed to two trustees £200, in trust, to lay out the same for the benefit of the poor of the parish of Daventry, in such manner as they should think proper.

This legacy was laid out in improvements and buildings, on the charity estate at Boddington, and two-seventeenth parts of the rents of that estate are carried to the general fund.

**EDWARD SAWBRIDGE'S.**—*Edward Sawbridge*, esq. by will, dated in 1772, gave £1,400 to the bailiff and burgesses of Daventry, for the time being, and their successors, to be laid out in land, upon trust, to pay out of the rents thereof the following sums, yearly, viz. 20s to the minister of the parish church of Daventry, and his successors, to preach a sermon in the parish church on Good Friday; £10 for putting out yearly the son of an honest poor person of the parish of Daventry to trade; £4 to the master of the English charity school, in Daventry, for augmenting his salary; 20s to the bailiff of Daventry for the time being, for his trouble about the trusts of the will; and £8 to the bailiff, to be applied towards paying yearly to the recorder of the borough of Daventry 40s; to the town clerk 20s; and to the two sergeants at mace 50s a piece; and the residue of the rent, after deducting expenses, to be distributed on the feast of St. Paul,

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amongst the most indigent persons of the parish of Daventry, at not less than 5s, or more than 7s 6d, to each.

This money was laid out in the purchase of the estate at Boddington, after-mentioned, and the residue of the rents of the estate (the amount of which is hereafter-mentioned), after providing for the several specific payments, mentioned in the will, and the portion of rent payable in respect of Walford's charities, above-mentioned, is carried to the general fund.

The general annual fund arising from the above sources is distributed by the bailiff and burgesses on St. Thomas's-day, and the 9th February, among poor persons of the parish, in different sums, proportioned to their situation and necessities, as specified in a list previously made out at a meeting of the corporation. Endeavours are used to confine the distribution to such poor as receive no regular parochial relief, as far as circumstances will permit, and those who do receive such relief from the parish are not considered entitled to rank as objects of the charity, though some such, it appears, are occasionally admitted to partake.

#### APPRENTICING CHARITY.

The sum of £10 a year, given by *Edward Sawbridge*, for putting out a boy to trade, as above-mentioned, is applied for that purpose.

#### GIFTS TO THE MINISTER AND OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH AND CORPORATION.

**FARMER'S AND EDWARD SAWBRIDGE'S.**—The sum of £20, given by *Richard Farmer*, for the minister, and the several annual sums given by *Edward Sawbridge*, to the minister and to the officers of the corporation, as above-mentioned, are regularly paid.

**JOHN SAWBRIDGE'S.**—*John Sawbridge*, above-named, bequeathed to the bailiff, burgesses, and commonality, £100, upon trust, to dispose of the interest thereof to the parish clerk and sexton of Daventry, equally between them, for their constant attendance at the morning prayer daily throughout the year.

This sum was applied towards purchasing the Cosford estate, and a proportion of the rents, £9 a year, is paid to the clerk and sexton.

#### THE COSFORD ESTATE

By indenture of five parts, dated 1st May, 1745, between *Edward Sawbridge*, of the first part; the bailiff, burgesses, *Northamptonshire*.

and commonalty, of the borough of Daventry, of the second part; Eleanor Bromwich, of the said borough, widow, of the third part; the then churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the parish of Daventry, of the fourth part; and Thomas Thornton, esq. Joseph Clarke, esq. Clarke Adams, John Watters, Thomas Theode, James Calcutt, and Charles Watkins, of the fifth part; after reciting the gifts already mentioned, of £10 by William Sawbridge, £10 by Thomas Wilson, £300 by Edward Maynard, £100 by Peter Sutch, £40 by Struckburgh Bromwich, £300 by Thomas Thornton, £50, £100, and £100, by John Sawbridge, £100 by Frances Thompson, and £100 by John Snart; and further reciting, that the bailiff, burgesses, and commonalty, and other persons interested in the said several benefactions and donations, had agreed to invest the same in the purchase of the hereditaments thereafter mentioned, in order to perpetuate the said charities, and more especially as such purchase would be very beneficial to the charities, in regard the said hereditaments were then of the value, and actually cost the said Edward Sawbridge the sum of £1,500, and the whole of the said several sums of money thereinbefore mentioned to be given for the charitable uses aforesaid, amounted to no more than the sum of £1,210, and the said Edward Sawbridge was willing to contribute the surplus and overvalue of the estate to the charitable purposes thereafter mentioned, but more especially for and towards the augmenting the revenue of the charity school; it is witnessed, that, in consideration of the sum of £1,210, being the amount of the said several legacies, or sums of money, the said Edward Sawbridge, by the direction and appointment, as well of the bailiff, burgesses, and commonalty, as of the said Eleanor Bromwich, granted, bargained, and sold, unto the said Thomas Thornton, and the other parties to that indenture, of the fifth part, and their heirs, several closes of pasture, or meadow ground, in the township of Cosford, in the parish of Newbold-upon-Avon, in the county of Warwick, called by the names therein mentioned; to hold to the said parties of the fifth part, their heirs, and assigns, in trust, as for and concerning the closes called the Great Broadway Grounds, Foxhill Ground, Little Broadway Ground, New Close, Rugby Way Ground, Old Meadow and Linck Leys, that they and the survivor of them, their heirs and assigns, should apply and dispose of the rents and profits to the uses mentioned in the wills of William Sawbridge, Edward Maynard, and Peter Sutch, respectively, and in the will of the said John Sawbridge, touching the said sum of £50, thereby given for the benefit

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of the charity school, and for such other uses, ends, and purposes, as were thereafter contained; and, upon trust, that the said Thomas Thornton and others, their heirs, and assigns, together with the bailiff of the borough of Daventry, for the time being, and the minister of the parish of Daventry, for the time being, should at all times thereafter make such rules and regulations for the ordering and governing of the said charity school, and placing such number of boys and girls to be taught therein, and what number and which of them should be clothed, and for the electing and turning out the schoolmaster of the school, and fixing his salary, as the trustees, together with the bailiff and minister, for the time being, or the major part of them, should direct and appoint, with power to apply some reasonable part of the rents and profits of the premises, as to the trustees should seem requisite, to defray the expenses of a new feoffment of the premises, upon the death of such number of the trustees as thereafter mentioned, and for collecting and receiving the rents and profits of the said premises; and it was thereby declared, that the bailiff of Daventry, and the minister of the parish of Daventry, should be standing trustees for the charity school, and act in conjunction with the other trustees, in all matters relating to the government thereof; and as for and concerning the close called Linck Ground, and the meadow called Linck Meadow, with their appurtenances, upon trust, that the trustees, their heirs, &c. should apply the rents to such uses, intents, and purposes, as were mentioned in the wills of Frances Thompson, and John Snart, respectively, and in the will of the said John Sawbridge, touching the two several sums of £100, given for the benefit of the parish clerk and sexton of Daventry, and of the beadsmen there, with a provision, that, when the number of trustees should be reduced to three, or less, the survivors should by the majority of their votes, together with the bailiff and minister of Daventry, choose so many other substantial and reputable persons of the parish of Daventry, or some adjacent place, near the parish, to be trustees with them, as would make up the number of trustees to be seven, in the whole, exclusive of the bailiff and minister, and convey the premises to themselves, and new elected trustees, upon the like trusts.

By indentures of lease and release, dated 12th and 13th June, 1821, the above-mentioned estate was conveyed unto William Watkins, esq. Charles Rattray, M.D., John Wildgose, Robert Wildgose, John Hall, Edmund Singer Burton, and Benjamin Wyment Palmer, all of Daventry; their heirs, and assigns, upon the trusts of the indenture of feoffment of 1745; and it was thereby covenanted, agreed, and declared,

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that, for the better management and execution of the trusts, the trustees and their successors, to be appointed as directed by the deed of 1745, should assemble and meet at the school-house, in Daventry, on the 1st Monday in every month, at 12 o'clock at noon, for the purpose of auditing and examining the accounts, and of making such orders and regulations as the major part of the trustees then assembled should think fit and most conducive to the good order and management of the trusts and charities; and that, at the meetings to be held annually, on the 1st December, the trustees should appoint a proper person (being one of the trustees,) treasurer of the charities, who should, from time to time, account to the trustees for all monies received and expended on account of the trusts and charities, and that such treasurer should attend the monthly meetings of the trustees, and, in case of an equality of votes, should have a casting vote, and that no one of the trustees should be elected or chosen treasurer for two years together; and it was thereby further declared and agreed, that the trustees should yearly, on the last Sunday in October, procure some gentleman in holy orders to preach a sermon in the parish church of Daventry for the benefit of the charity school, and two or more of the trustees should, on the said last Sunday in October, collect at the church door, immediately after divine service, both in the morning and afternoon, the voluntary contributions then offered, and account to the trustees for the same at their next monthly meeting.

The estate at Cosford consists of several closes, containing together 75 acres, and is let to William Norman, as yearly tenant, at the annual rent of £125, which is the full annual value. There was a fall of timber on the estate in 1821, the produce of which was applied in repairs of the grammar school-house, and towards payment of a bill due to the solicitor of the trustees for law charges.

The rent is appropriated and applied to the purposes of the several charities, the funds of which constituted the purchase-money of the estate, in proportion to the amount of the respective funds, £89 a year being the portion devoted to the use of the charity school.

#### THE BODDINGTON ESTATE.

The sum of £1,400, bequeathed by *Edward Sanbridge*, and £100, part of the legacies bequeathed by *Mary Walford*, as mentioned above, were laid out in the purchase of a piece of ground in Boddington, in the county of Northampton, containing, by estimation, 73A. 1R. 10P. which was conveyed by indentures of lease and release, the release bearing date the

*Hundred of Chipping Warden.*

12th day of December, 1776, unto William Cullingworth, and nine others, and their heirs, upon trust, to apply the rents in the manner mentioned in the said will of Edward Sawbridge, with a proviso, that, when the trustees should be reduced to five, or less, the survivors should, by a majority of their votes, choose so many substantial persons, being bailiff, recorder, town-clerk, or burgesses, of Daventry, whereof the bailiff, recorder, and town clerk, should be three, to be trustees with them, as would make up the number of nine in the whole, and should convey the premises accordingly.

By indenture, dated 20th January, 1777, reciting the will of the said Mary Walford, and noticing the said indentures of 11th and 12th December, 1776, and that the sum of £100, part of the legacies of Mary Walford, had been advanced to the trustees in the said indentures named, to enable them to complete the purchase of the lands therein mentioned; and the further sum of £200, the remainder of the legacies of Mary Walford, had been also advanced, to enable the trustees to build a barn upon, and to put the estate and premises into the most tenantable condition, and to make necessary alterations and subdivisions thereon; it was covenanted by the said trustees, during the continuance of the lease therein mentioned, to pay out of the rent of the estate £6, amongst the poor of the parish of Daventry, and £3, among the six beadsmen of Daventry, in such manner as Henry Sawbridge, the surviving trustee, named in the will of Mary Walford, should think proper; and, in default of appointment, in such manner as the trustees should think proper; and, after the expiration of the lease, that the trustees should yearly, on All Saints Day, pay two seventeenth parts of the rent of the estate unto and amongst the poor of Daventry, and also one-seventeenth part of the rents amongst the six beadsmen of the parish, in such manner as Henry Sawbridge, and, in default of his direction, as the trustees, should think proper.

This estate is let to John Baseley, as yearly tenant, at the annual rent of £90, which is its full value.

This application of the rents is already mentioned.

An account is kept of the receipt and application of the rents of the charity estates at Cosford and Boddington, by the bailiff for the time being, and is examined and settled once a year, at a meeting of the bailiff and burgesses, in the month of November.

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### SECURITY ON THE MOOTHALL AND CORPORATION PROPERTY.

The sum of £542, the amount of Newton's, Dryden's, Mary Watters', John Watters', and Eleanor Bromwich's gift, above mentioned, was formerly invested in the public funds; and, in 1806, the stock was sold for £563, of which the sum of £200 is secured by a deed, dated the 30th October, 1806, upon the rates or assessments, raised under an Act of Parliament for paving, cleansing, &c. the town of Daventry, regulating the market there, and enabling the bailiff, burgesses, and commonalty, to purchase the Moothall, in Daventry, and rebuild the same, with interest of £5 per cent; and the sum of £363, with other monies, to amount in the whole of £900, is secured by deed, dated the 1st November, 1806, upon rents payable to the corporation, by virtue of the same Act of Parliament, and also upon the Moothall buildings, shambles, tolls, and other hereditaments, vested in the corporation by the said Act. The payment of the last mentioned fund is secured by this deed, to Thomas Adams and three others, and they hold the security, in trust for the corporation, as appears by a declaration of trust, bearing even date with the last mentioned deed.

Interest at £5 per cent, upon £542 only, the amount of the legacies, is paid for the support of the charities, though interest (as it appears to us) ought properly to be paid on £563, the produce of the stock in which the legacies had been previously invested.

### THE CHURCH LAND.

This property, which has been held immemorially for the use of the parish church, consists of the following particulars:

1. A close in Drayton Field, containing three acres, or thereabouts, let to Moses Miller, on lease, for seven years, at £11. 2s 6d per annum.

2. A close, called the Abbey Close, containing one and a half acre, or thereabouts, let to Mrs. Ana Wilkins, as yearly tenant, at £7 per annum.

The property is let at its full annual value, and the rents are applied by the churchwardens, with the church rate, for the general services and maintenance of the church.

### CHARITIES BELONGING TO THE CONGREGATION OF PROTESTANT DISSENTERS, IN DAVENTRY.

**WELCH'S GIFT.**—*John Welch*, by will, dated 13th April, 1748, bequeathed to four trustees, therein named, £1000, upon trust, to pay the interest of £400, part thereof, for the *Hundred of Fawsley*.

benefit and education of the children, to be brought up in the school, belonging to the protestant dissenters at Daventry, in such manner as the trustees should think fit; and to pay the interest of £300, for the use and support of the congregation of protestant dissenters of Daventry, therein named; and to pay the interest of £300, the remainder of the £1000, for the use and support of a like congregation at Bethnal green, therein mentioned, in such manner as the trustees should think fit; and the testator directed, that new trustees should be appointed, from time to time, by the election of the surviving trustees.

No account can be given of the original investment of the legacy, but the existing fund, belonging to the charity, consists of £1000, old South Sea annuities, standing in the names of four trustees, two of them appointed by the congregation of Daventry, and two by the congregation of Bethnal Green.

The sum of £12 a year, part of the dividends, is applied to the support of a school in Daventry, for the educating, in reading, writing, and arithmetic, of 12 boys and 6 girls, children of persons, belonging to the congregation of dissenters in Daventry. The number of scholars is usually kept up with regularity, but, at the time of this enquiry, the school was vacant, and endeavours were making to procure a new master. The sum of £9 a year, other part of the dividends, is, by the consent of the congregation, paid to the minister, and the remainder of the dividends is received by the congregation at Bethnal Green.

**SARAH FLOYD'S CHARITY.**—*Sarah Floyd*, by will, dated 7th July, 1760, bequeathed £200, to William Falwell and four other trustees, to be laid out in government security, and the interest thereof applied for the maintenance of the minister, for the time being, of the congregation of protestant dissenters at Daventry, in such manner as the trustees should appear best for the public benefit of the congregation, with a direction, that, when any of the trustees should die, the survivors should appoint new ones, by writing, under their hands and seals.

The sum of £200 was laid out in the purchase of £274. 10s 6d, three per cent consols, now standing in the names of four trustees. The dividends, £8. 4s 3d a year, are paid to the minister in Daventry.

**CHRISTIAN LINNELL'S GIFT.**—*Christian Linnell*, by will, dated 4th July, 1811, directed £150 to be laid out in the purchase of three per cent stock, as a trust, for the benefit of the minister of the congregation of protestant dissenters in *Northamptonshire*.

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Daventry, and she appointed the trustees of the Sheaf-street meeting to receive the dividends, and pay them to the minister.

The sum of £150, after deducting legacy duty, was laid out in the purchase of £209. 6s, three per cent consols, in the names of Clarke Gorthorne, William Brooks, Edward Bull, and Clarke Tomlins. The dividends, amounting to £6. 5s 6d per annum, are received by the trustees, and duly paid over to the minister.

CALEB ASHWORTH'S GIFT.—There is a sum of £100, three per cent consols, standing in the names of the four last mentioned trustees, which is understood to have arisen from the gift of the Rev. *Caleb Ashworth*, D.D. for the support of the minister of the congregation. The dividends are applied to that purpose.



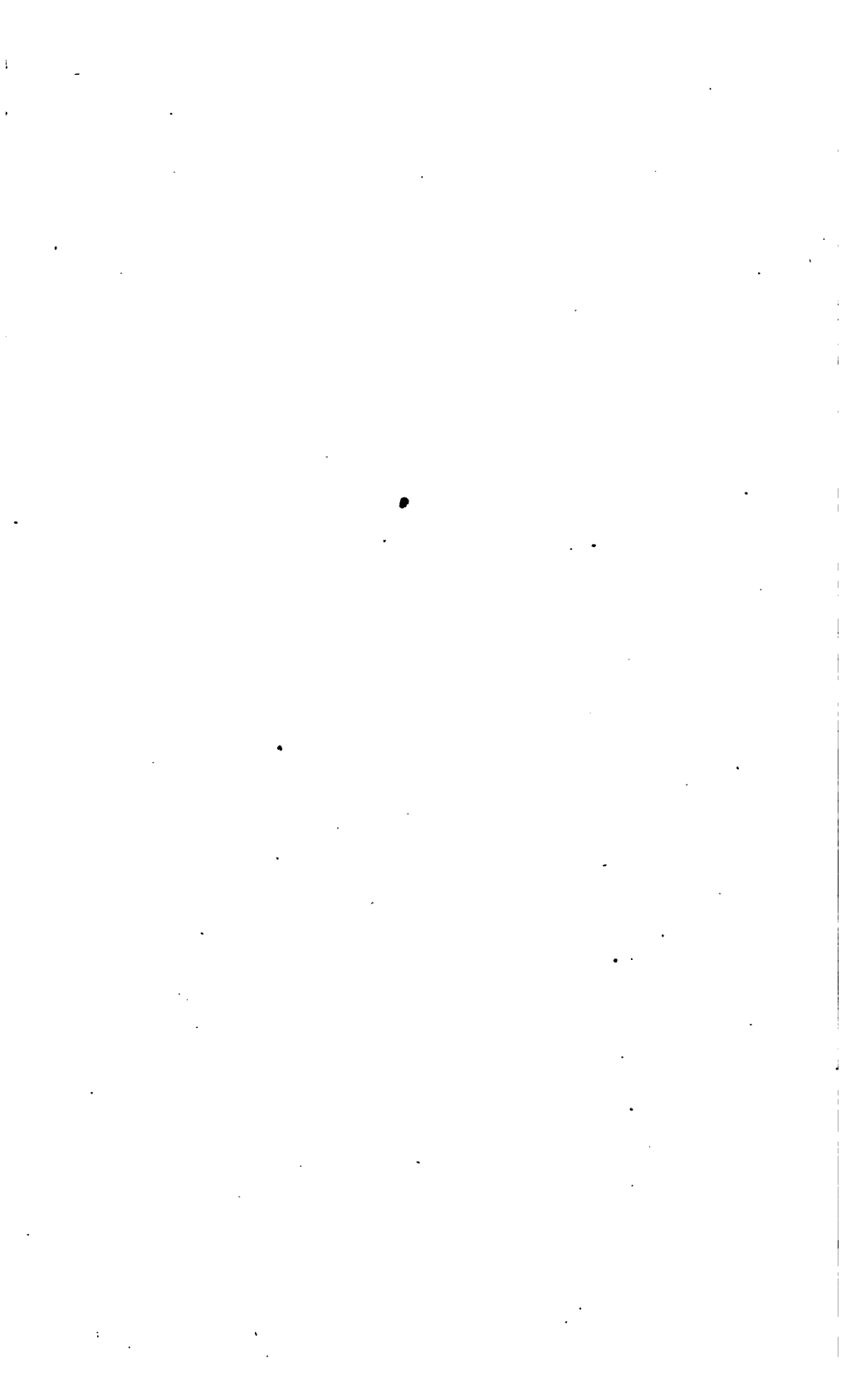
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End of the First Volume.

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